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‘They’ve all got a story’

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL MILLER/Courtesy of the Temple (Texas) Daily Telegram

Retired warplanes sit abandoned in a field in northeast Temple, Texas, in September. Jim Hodgson, of the Fort Worth Aviation Museum in Temple, believes the owner intended to scrap the planes but never finished.

Aviation relics scrapped in Texas field are just shells of their former war glory

By ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

AUSTIN, Texas — Rusting, cracked and covered in dead leaves, three relics of Navy aviation sit rotting in an overgrown field in Temple, Texas — a far cry from their glory days of fighting for America in the skies over Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. Surprisingly, a few switches and throttles have remained despite obvious signs of souvenir hunters picking at the aircrafts' frames.

The two F-14 Tomcats and an F-4 Phantom II can be seen in a YouTube video, viewed more than 600,000 times — their wings stripped off and piled nearby, trees growing through the fuselage, wires exposed and glass cracked.

The owner, who declined an interview, said he purchased the planes from “property disposal.”

Jim Hodgson, a Marine Corps veteran and director of the Fort Worth Aviation Museum, believes the owner intended to scrap the planes but never finished the job.

SEE RELICS ON PAGE 6



National parks feel effects of shutdown

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER
AND JOCELYN GECKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Human feces, overflowing garbage, illegal off-roading and other damaging behavior in fragile areas were beginning to overwhelm some of the West's iconic national parks as a partial government shutdown left the areas open to visitors but with little staff on duty.

‘There is more trash and human waste and disregard for the rules than I’ve seen in my four years living here.’

Dakota Snider
Yosemite Valley resident

“It’s a free-for-all,” Dakota Snider, 24, who lives and works in Yosemite Valley, Calif., said by telephone Monday as Yosemite National Park officials announced closings of some minimally supervised campgrounds and public areas within the park that are overwhelmed. “It’s so heartbreak-

ing. There is more trash and disregard for the rules than I’ve seen in my four years living here,” Snider said.

The partial federal government shutdown, now into its 11th day, has forced furloughs of hundreds of thousands of federal government employees. That has left many parks without most of the rangers and others who staff campgrounds and otherwise keep parks running.

Unlike shutdowns in some previous administrations, the Trump

SEE WASTE ON PAGE 8

WAR ON TERRORISM

Afghan forces use artillery to repel attack

By ALEX HORTON
AND SAYED SALAHUDDIN
The Washington Post

KABUL, Afghanistan — At least 21 Afghan police officers were killed in three simultaneous Taliban assaults Monday night in northern Afghanistan.

Despite civilians being nearby, security forces fired artillery rounds to repel the militant advances.

The hours-long attack mostly focused on overtaking oil wells and vehicles near the capital in Sar-e Pol province, officials said, as the Taliban bid to demonstrate power and undermine government control during peace talks to end the 17-year-old war.

Militants used rifles and rocket-propelled grenades in the assault, which also injured at least 23 police officers, Zabihullah Amani, a spokesman for the provincial governor, told The Washington Post on Tuesday.

"The areas are with the government, but they are under range of Taliban fire,"

“The areas are with the government, but they are under range of Taliban fire. We still have not received any assistance.”

Zabihullah Amani
Spokesman for provincial governor

Amani said. “We still have not received any assistance.”

Three senior security officials — an intelligence officer and two police commanders — were killed in the attacks, said Mohammad Noor Rahmani, the chief of the provincial council.

Afghan forces fired Soviet-era D-30 howitzers to repel militants on the capital outskirts, Amani said. The Associated Press reported the barrage forced civilians to flee to safety, though officials said there were no reports of civilian casualties.

The Taliban, which claimed responsibility for the attack, suffered casualties

in their assault, Amani said. But officials have not said how many militants were killed or wounded.

The assault joins a stream of near-daily Taliban strikes designed in part to exert pressure during peace negotiations between the militants, the United States and regional powers. Militants infiltrated a government building in Kabul on Dec. 24, killing 29 people and wounding more.

Analysts have said President Donald Trump’s sudden announcement to withdraw about half of the 15,000 U.S. troops from the country would strengthen the Taliban’s negotiating position as Afghan

forces struggle to maintain security throughout the country, suffering record-high casualties in 2018.

There are signs those attacks will continue through the winter, a time in which the Taliban has historically used to rest and regroup with their families in Pakistan through bitter cold months, said Khalid Pashtun, a lawmaker in Kandahar.

“This year we have noticed they’re staying inside Afghanistan,” he said, adding that it was possible Afghan forces have been caught off guard after expecting assaults to become less frequent.

Monday’s attack may have also been a bid to claim territory to further undercut Islamic State militants mustering in the north, he said. In August, more than 150 ISIS fighters surrendered to the government after battling the Taliban in neighboring Jowzjan province.

Government forces have also battled the ISIS militants; the latest offensive came Tuesday in eastern Nangahar province in which 27 ISIS fighters were killed.

Dozens killed in battles between al-Qaida, rebels

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Two days of fighting in rebel-held parts of northern Syria killed dozens of people as al-Qaida-linked militants press their offensive against Turkey-backed rebels, a war monitor and activists said Wednesday.

The new wave of fighting comes after President Donald Trump’s abrupt announcement in mid-December that he was withdrawing 2,000 U.S. troops from Syria and Turkish threats to carry out a military operation against Kurd-

ish fighters.

With their offensive, the al-Qaida-linked fighters are trying to cut off Turkey-backed fighters in the northern enclave of Afrin from those in the northwestern province of Idlib amid concerns that Turkey might make a deal with Russia at the expense of the extremists, said Rami Abdulrahman who heads the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

“They are trying to say we are present and no one should ignore

us,” he said of the al-Qaida-linked fighters.

The al-Qaida-linked Levant Liberation Committee and the Turkey-backed Nour el-Din el-Zinki group blamed each other for triggering the fighting, the worst in nearly three months.

The Observatory said two days of fighting in the provinces of Aleppo and Idlib have killed 31 people, including five civilians. Also killed were 14 al-Qaida-linked fighters and 12 Turkey-backed gunmen.

The government-controlled Syrian Central Military Media said al-Qaida-linked fighters are now in full control of the strategic town of Daret Azzezh and have also captured the villages of Kafrant, Fadra, Houta and Mkalbis.

The Levant Liberation Committee said Nour el-Din el-Zinki militants shot dead five people, including four of its fighters, last week. It added that a local court released an official with the Nour el-Din el-Zinki after questioning him, leading to tensions in the area.

Abdullahman said al-Qaida-linked HTS took the killing as a pretext to launch its attack.

Correction

A Jan. 1 story recounting U.S. deaths in Afghanistan should have included a 15th servicemember, Army Pfc. Joshua Mikeasky, 19, who died in a noncombat incident at Bagram Air Field on Dec. 13.

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MILITARY



Twitter screenshot

U.S. Strategic Command apologized for this New Year's Eve tweet, which has since been deleted.

STRATCOM apologizes for tweet

By DEANNA PAUL
The Washington Post

The U.S. military command responsible for the nation's nuclear weapons tweeted a New Year's Eve message Monday afternoon: It is always ready to "drop something much, much, bigger" than Manhattan's iconic Time Square ball.

The post and accompanying video went live as the country readied to ring in the new year by watching the famous New York City ball descend at midnight.

The U.S. Strategic Command has since deleted and apologized for the tweet.

"We admittedly erred in connecting it to New Year's Eve festivities, and we apologize," said Meghan M. Lienburg-Archer, a U.S. Strategic Command spokeswoman. "We remain dedicated to the protection of America and our allies."

"#TimesSquare tradition rings in the #NewYear by dropping the big ball ... if ever needed, we are #ready to drop

something much, much bigger," the original post read. "Watch to the end! @AFGlobalStrike @Whiteman_AFB #Deterrence #Assurance #CombatReadyForce #PeacelsOurProfession"

The embedded video showed footage of a B-2 stealth bomber. As the words "STEALTH," "READY" and "LETHAL" flashed across the screen, the aircraft releases bombs. They fall to the ground and crash with a fiery explosion.

It also tagged the Whiteman Air Force Base and the Air Force Global Strike Command, which is responsible for nuclear and nonnuclear strategic bomber fleets.

The post was deleted within hours and replaced with a subsequent apology from the Strategic Command's official account.

The New Year's Eve post drew confusion and criticism on the social media platform.

Walter Shaub, former director of the Office of Government Ethics, repeated the now-deleted tweet and asked, "What kind

of manifies are running this country?"

Many were unnerved by the flippant-natured comment, which came from the very command that controls American nuclear capabilities.

"This is really disturbing coming from US Strategic Command. It isn't amusing. It is terrifying," wrote one user. Another questioned whether the military planned a bomb strike for midnight.

The original post came hours before outgoing Defense Secretary Jim Mattis ended his two years as Pentagon chief.

"This post, which has since been deleted, was part of our Year in Review series meant to feature our command priorities: strategic deterrence, decisive response and combat-ready force. There was a repost from earlier in the year, dropping a pair of conventional Massive Ordnance Penetrators (MOP) at a test range in the United States," a U.S. Strategic Command spokesman told The Washington Post.

Truman to serve as test for 3D-printed metal part

By COURTNEY MABEUS
The (Norfolk, Va.) Virginian-Pilot

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — An arm passes across a plate in the big machine, depositing powdered metal before a laser fuses it all together.

Wipe. Zap. Wipe. Zap.
Hour by hour, and layer by painstaking layer, the machine, a 3D metal printer built by 3D Systems, hums away.

Wipe. Zap. Wipe. Zap.
"This build has over a thousand layers so it's just slowly making its way through," Don Hebert, an engineer at Newport News Shipbuilding said. "It'll take a little over a day. It runs continuously."

A little more than 2 miles from where workers at Newport News Shipbuilding are assembling the future aircraft carriers John F. Kennedy and Enterprise, a new tangent in the future of shipbuilding has been slowly taking shape in a nondescript office in an industrial park.

The shapes on this day were a collection of small cubes and rectangles, about 3 to 6 inches tall, designed by mechanical engineer and Navy reservist Kyle Wade via 3D modeling software and uploaded to the printer rather than being cast in a foundry. The pieces were being printed to test for strength and quality.

"We look at the microstructure as well as the strength properties," Hebert said as he stood near the machine, watching as the pieces took shape through a small window in its side.

"So, when we compare traditional properties, or traditional processes, we're trying to make sure that this process is as strong as our traditional cast."

3D printing, also known as additive technology, is not new. It's been used for years and is common for producing plastic prototypes and medical devices. The Navy has used it for other purposes.

In October, Naval Sea Systems Command announced that it was upping the ante when it approved a prototype 3D-printed metal drain strainer for installation on the Naval Station Norfolk-based aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman. The part will be installed in coming

'We're still paving the road because the Navy, rightfully so, has to pay a lot of attention to the reliability of the parts, safety of their sailors and operability of their ships.'

Don Hamadyk
director of research and development at
Newport News Shipbuilding

weeks in the carrier's steam system for a one-year trial.

Manufacturing a product for use on a Navy ship system requires significant testing before it can be certified for fleet-wide use.

Engineers at Newport News Shipbuilding approached the Navy with the idea a few years ago but there was no rulebook for 3D metal printed objects, or specifications to work from, said Don Hamadyk, director of research and development, and John Ralls, an engineering manager and Navy reservist.

"We're still paving the road because the Navy, rightfully so, has to pay a lot of attention to the reliability of the parts, safety of their sailors and operability of their ships," Hamadyk said. "So, the technical work that we've done over the last, really, four years is all aimed toward making the Navy comfortable with the parts that are going on their ships."

As Newport News Shipbuilding developed its own qualifications, the Navy worked separately on its specifications for industry, said Justin Rettaliata, who handles the approval of 3D-printed components for ship installation for NAVSEA.

Those specifications include details from the process and materials used to the tests that must be performed.

"For casting and forging, you know,



RICKY THOMPSON, NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING
Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

A version of this prototype of a steam system component that permits water drainage from a steam line has been approved as the first metal part created by 3D printing and will be installed aboard the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman in fiscal year 2019.

we have means of data from hundreds of years of experience on what the material properties are," he said.

The part being installed on the Truman took three days to build and was printed at a Newport News Shipbuilding partner, spokesman Duane Bourne said. It was originally a cast part made that required a lead time of up to nine months, Rettaliata said.

The Navy is looking to 3D printing as a way to skirt those long lead times for critical parts, as well as a way to replace pieces that may be obsolete.

It may also prove a less expensive method when the Navy needs only a few replacement parts rather than having to order a large lot, Rettaliata said. The Navy is discussing other 3D metal printed components with the shipbuilder as well.

The valve made for the Truman "met or exceeded" the requirements for the traditionally cast part, Rettaliata said. After a year of use, it will be cut out and go through another battery of tests.

"There's not a lot of data for operational testing," he said. "This will go through a year of, you know, use. Whatever that use might be. So this will allow us to do testing, see how it holds up for corrosion, see if there's any cracking."

Air Force 'base in a box' plan hits delays in Europe

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Poor program management has delayed the development of mobile air base kits in Europe, which means fewer airlift options for U.S. European Command during a crisis, according to a Defense Department Inspector General's report.

The Air Force has a plan to stand up 24 "Deployable Air Base Kits" as part of a \$797 million program to bolster American air power in Europe. However, EUCOM and U.S. Air Forces Europe efforts have been hampered by vague deadlines and insufficient oversight, the IG reported in late December.

"As a result, USEUCOM and USAFE will have fewer options for airlift capabilities when rapidly responding to a contingency within the USEUCOM area of responsibility," the IG said in its Dec. 27 report.

In 2016, EUCOM directed USAFE to develop the requirements for deployable air bases, which include tents, vehicles, medical supplies and airfield repair equipment that enable the Air Force to quickly set up a base.

The idea of a "base in a box," which came about in response to concerns about a more aggressive Russia, is that the deployable kits would reduce the time and cost of transporting equipment from either the U.S. or other bases in Europe.

The plan called for enough gear for the first five full kits to be procured in 2018, but USAFE officials told the IG in July that they did not expect to have the equipment procured for the first complete kit until 2020 or 2021.

The lack of a single manager designated by the Air Force to handle oversight and coordination between the various agencies has hindered the effort, the IG said.

EUCOM also did not establish "an end date to have all 24 kits pre-positioned in USEUCOM area of responsibility," the report said. "An end date is critical for USAFE to use to plan the coordination of the construction of storage facilities and procurement of equipment categories."

EUCOM agreed with the IG's findings and has provided the IG with a "classified implementation plan" with an end date to pre-position the 24 kits. USAFE officials also said they now have a goal to have 10 kits ready by 2021.

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MILITARY

Expert: Many in China believe US military lacks battle resolve

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

Too many in China think the United States will cut and run if war breaks out in the Far East, a U.S. defense expert warned Wednesday in response to threats by a Chinese war hawk.

"A far larger number of Chinese believe it than I think is healthy," said Brad Glosserman, a China expert and visiting professor at Tokyo's Tama University.

Glosserman was responding to comments by Chinese Rear Adm. Lou Yuan, who told an audience in Shenzhen last month that sinking a pair of U.S. aircraft carriers would settle issues of sovereignty in the South China Sea, according to the News Corp Australia network.

China has strengthened its grip on the disputed territory in recent years, moving military equipment onto artificial islands and harassing aircraft and ships passing through the area.

New anti-ship missiles could

take out America's largest warships, Yuan — deputy head of the Chinese Academy of Military Sciences — said in his speech Dec. 20 at the Military Industry List summit.

"What the United States fears the most is taking casualties," he said, noting that 5,000 servicemen would die on each sunken U.S. carrier.

"We'll see how frightened America is," he said, according to the Australian report.

The comments reflect a widespread belief that America lacks resolve to prevail on the battlefield, Glosserman said.

Too many Chinese think "Americans have gone soft ... [they] no longer have an appetite for sacrifice and at the first sign of genuine trouble they will cut and run," he said.

The issues at play in the South China Sea are a core national interest for China, the U.S. sees them as abstractly important, Glosserman said.

Lack of democracy in China



KAILA V. PETERS/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

A Chinese military expert recently suggested testing American firepower in the South China Sea by sinking a pair of aircraft carriers, such as the USS Ronald Reagan.

means the nation's tolerance for combat losses is likely higher than in the U.S., he added.

Yuan, who holds only an academic military rank and hasn't commanded Chinese forces, advocated exploiting America's military, financial system, workforce, electoral system and fear of adversaries, News Corp reported.

"Attack wherever the enemy is afraid of being hit," he said, "wherever the enemy is weak."

Yuan said last month that China should invade Taiwan if the U.S.

Navy stopped there, according to comments published by the state-run Global Times newspaper.

"Achieving China's state unity is a necessary requirement," he said. "The achievement of the past 40 years of reform and opening-up has given us the capability and confidence to safeguard our sovereignty."

"Those who are trying to stir up trouble in the South China Sea and Taiwan should be careful about their future," he added.

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DOD official resigns amid internal probe

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department's top spokeswoman, who had been under investigation since May over whether she mistreated employees, abruptly resigned Monday night within hours of the departure of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis.

Dana W. White said on Twitter: "I appreciate the opportunity afforded to me by this administration to serve alongside Secretary Mattis, our service members and all the civilians who support them. It has been my honor and privilege. Stay safe and God bless."

A Defense Department spokesperson on Tuesday confirmed White had resigned from her position as assistant to the secretary of defense for public affairs. Charles E. Summers Jr. replaced White, becoming "acting" assistant to the defense secretary, according to the Pentagon.

It is not clear whether White's departure was related to reports of the inspector general probe.

Six current and former Pentagon officials had said at least two complaints were filed against White. The probe focused in part on how staff members carried out personal tasks for her.

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MILITARY

Military issues targeted in online poll

By DIANNA CAHN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Female servicemembers and veterans were 10 times more likely than their male counterparts to answer that they faced or witnessed gender discrimination, sexual harassment or sexual assault in the military, according to an online poll of 1,708 Stars and Stripes digital subscribers around the world.

Of those who answered the question, 68.5 percent of women who serve or served in the military said they had experienced discrimination based on gender, compared to 6.4 percent of the men. Poll results showed that 65.8 percent of the women who responded said they had experienced sexual assault or harassment, while only 6.1 percent of the men answered yes.

Those who said they had been harassed or assaulted were most supportive of integrating women into ground combat positions, the survey found.

The anonymous online poll, conducted by Smithsonian magazine in partnership with Stars and Stripes and the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University, was based on an email invitation to 21,364 sub-

Find more results from the online poll at:
<https://bit.ly/2Vq2E48>



scribers, so the findings are not a random sampling.

Among those who answered were 109 active-duty servicemembers and 922 veterans from all branches. An additional 676 civilians, including 203 military spouses, participated in the survey but were not included in questions relating to direct military service.

One person did not identify personal gender details. Women — and one fluid-gender respondent — comprised a smaller subsample of the respondents, raising the margin of error in those results from plus or minus 3 percent for the overall poll to nearly 11 percent, according to the report, compiled by a team at George Mason led by political scientist Delton Daigle.

The report states that the exploration of gender-based perceptions raised some important issues about how the military moves forward in its groundbreaking effort to fully integrate women and transgender people into the force.

For example, men were far

more likely than women to agree with the statement that mixed gender training reduced standards, with 69 percent of men and 44.2 percent of women agreeing.

"Reforms conducted by the United States Department of Defense to include women and transgender military personnel are historic in nature," the report states. "Yet these efforts run counter to publicly held conceptions of what the military should be. Understanding how male soldiers feel about these reforms will be important to understanding the trajectory of the reforms themselves."

Men were less likely than women to say that they had witnessed sexual assault or harassment — though it is unclear whether they were less likely to see it, recognize it or say anything about it — with 42 percent of women and 17.1 percent of men who responded saying they had witnessed it.

Across the board, there was majority support for women in ground combat, with nearly 81 percent of women and just over 69 percent of men who responded saying they supported it. The poll found that support grew with each younger generation. Where-

as 62.8 percent of the Greatest Generation was in support, that figure grew to 71.8 percent of baby boomer respondents, 79 percent of Gen X and 81.4 percent of millennials.

The survey also posed this question to those who had been sexually assaulted or harassed. It found that 82.7 percent of those saying they had been assaulted or harassed supported women in ground combat, as opposed to 68 percent of those who had not.

"One of the common arguments against allowing women in the military is that they could be victims of sexual violence," the report notes. "However very few people pause to ask the victims themselves."

Millennial respondents were also the tipping point regarding the assertion that mixed gender training reduces standards. While older respondents were in strong agreement with that statement, just 55 percent of Gen X respondents agreed. Among millennials, support for that statement dropped to a minority 44.4 percent.

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Marine shot to death in Washington barracks

A U.S. Marine from Minnesota was shot and killed while on duty at his barracks in Washington, D.C.

Riley S. Kuznia, 20, from the small northwestern Minnesota town of Karlstad, was shot about 5 a.m. Tuesday, his mother confirmed in a Facebook posting.

Kuznia graduated in 2017 from Tri-County High School in a class of roughly 15, District Superintendent Ryan Baron said Wednesday.

Marine Corps spokesman Gunnery Sgt. John Jackson said his military branch is not yet releasing the circumstances of the shooting, but he did say the wound "was not self-inflicted" and "no threat to local residents exists as this event transpired within the grounds" of the barracks located about a mile southeast of the U.S. Capitol.

Kuznia's mother, Markelle Kuznia, wrote on Facebook that "with broken hearts we lost a loving son, cherished brother and dedicated Marine... Please use his Facebook account to share all the amazing memories you shared with this young kid. Semper fidelis!"

Established in 1801, the barracks is described by the Marines as the "Oldest Post of the Corps" and has been the residence of every commandant of the Marine Corps since 1806.

From wire reports

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MILITARY

Shanahan clear that his focus is on China

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — On his first working day as acting defense secretary, Patrick Shanahan made clear that his focus is on China.

The former Boeing executive, who moved up from the No. 2 job after Pentagon chief Jim Mattis left Monday, gathered civilian leaders of the military services and other top civilian officials at the Defense Department Wednesday before going to the White House for a Cabinet meeting.

A defense official said Shanahan told the Pentagon gathering that he is focused on the strategy as developed and put in place under Mattis. It emphasizes the importance of great power competition with Russia and China after America's many years of fighting insurgent wars in the Middle East.

In that context, Shanahan said the Pentagon leaders should remember, "China, China, China," according to the official, who was not authorized to publicly discuss internal defense meetings and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Trump administration has had a rocky relationship with China. Like the Obama administration, President Donald Trump's government is concerned by what it calls China's militarization of disputed areas in the South China Sea and by its advances in certain high-tech weaponry.

As acting defense secretary, Shanahan has all the authorities of a permanent secretary. It's unclear whether Trump will

nominate Shanahan as Mattis' successor or will choose someone else. Shanahan had been the deputy secretary since July 2017. He spent his entire career with Boeing and has no prior government experience.

Mattis, a retired Marine general, submitted his resignation on Dec. 20 after a series of policy disagreements with Trump, including the president's decision to withdraw troops from Syria. Mattis said he would stay until the end of February, but on Dec. 23 Trump announced that Shanahan would take over Jan. 1, speeding up Mattis' departure.

Shanahan, a native of Washington state, had worked for Boeing since 1986. His views on strategic issues such as U.S. alliances and the wars in Afghanistan and Syria are largely unknown to the public. During his Senate confirmation hearing in June 2017, Shanahan drew the ire of Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., for equivocating on whether he favored providing defensive weaponry to Ukraine in response to Russian military intervention.

It is rare for the Pentagon to be run by an acting secretary. The last was William H. Taft, who served in that capacity for about 60 days in 1989 after President George H.W. Bush's initial choice to be defense secretary, John Tower, became mired in controversy and ultimately failed to be confirmed by the Senate. Dick Cheney, the future vice president under President George W. Bush, then was nominated and confirmed.

Acting Pentagon chief picks DOD comptroller as new deputy defense secretary

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — David Norquist, the Defense Department's comptroller, will also now perform the duties of deputy secretary of defense, Patrick Shanahan announced Wednesday — his first full working day as acting defense secretary.

The announcement was made during a meeting Wednesday morning at the Pentagon with all of the service secretaries and undersecretaries of defense, and according to a defense official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Norquist has been the department's comptroller and chief financial officer since June 2017, and his duties include overseeing the Pentagon's annual budget and managing the \$689 billion of federal financial management experience, according to his official Pentagon biography. He was chief financial officer for the Department of Homeland Security from 2006 to 2008.

"I have the greatest confidence in his abilities to lead a phenom-

enally talented team while performing the duties as deputy secretary of defense," Shanahan said Wednesday in a statement.

Shanahan also attended a Cabinet meeting Wednesday at the White House. He said he looks "forward to working with President (Donald) Trump to carry out his vision alongside strong leaders including the service secretaries, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the combatant commanders, and senior personnel in the Office of the Secretary of Defense."

Norquist's appointment follows the departure of Dana White, who left her post Monday as assistant to the secretary of defense for public affairs. White was under investigation by the DOD Inspector General for allegedly using her staff to run personal errands and then retaliating against them, according to a CNN report in August. Now taking her former role is Charles Summers Jr., who was the principal deputy assistant under White.

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MICHAEL MILLER/Courtesy of the Temple (Texas) Daily Telegram

A retired warplane sits abandoned in a field in northeast Temple, Texas, in September.

Relics: From missions far afield to a Texas field

FROM FRONT PAGE

"They probably scraped out all of the easy pieces and what was left was going to be difficult. Rather than going through the time and trouble, they just dumped them," said Hodgson, who has discussed the aircraft with the owner and the Navy.

As a participant in the Navy's aircraft loan program, he felt responsible for alerting officials to their existence once he was made aware of it. It also bothered him to see the once-powerful machines in such a sad state.

"We consider these airplanes as vets just like any human being," he said. "They've all got a story. They've all had interactions with lives and combat and all the rest of it. We consider them as noteworthy of respect as the people that rode in them. And to me it's just like discarding somebody on the side of the road."

Officials with the Navy said in September they are aware of the planes and working with the landowner for removal. In instances of sale for scrap, the Navy has to ensure that the aircraft are reduced to that condition, said Anthony Mazonne, the Navy's stricken aircraft program manager. The Defense Logistics Agency's Defense Disposition Services handles the actual sale.

That these aircraft are on private property has complicated the issue, he said.

Only the F-4 has an identifiable bureau (serial) number that is distinguishable, and that aircraft was formally stricken from the naval records in March 1983," said Jeffrey Landis, spokesman for Navy Supply Command Weapons Systems Support.

Navy officials wouldn't speculate on how the aircraft came to land in this particular field, but provided information on the typical disposal process. Navy policy requires they drain all fluids and remove any hazardous materials before rendering the airframes into scrap. The scrap is then disposed of at an authorized recycling facility. In all cases, engines are removed along with wings, nose-mounted radars, electronics, cockpit controls, seats and instrumentation.

Without discernible bureau numbers, the F-14s can't be positively identified in naval records inventory.

Record-setting technology

Hill Goodspeed, a historian with the National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Fla., said F-4s were designed in the 1950s and nicknamed the "big iron sled" and the "flying anvil," because of the aircraft's size and shape. Just 31 months after its first flight, the F-4 was the Navy's fastest, highest flying and longest-range fighter.

Delivery to the Navy began in 1960, and soon the Air Force caught interest in the aircraft, along with 10 foreign nations, making it one of the most widely used aircraft in aviation history.

"It appeared during the Cold War," Goodspeed said. "The U.S. Navy was looking at newer technology to be used to defend aircraft carriers at sea."

During that time a lot of air-to-air missiles were being developed. The Phantom, which included a back seat for a radar intercept officer who tracked targets, was designed to "fly very fast and at a high altitude and intercept incoming Soviet aircraft at great range."

The Phantom II went on to establish more than a dozen world records for speed, altitude and time-to-climb.

Once the U.S. entered the Vietnam War, the Phantom was pressed into a very different type of service. It became a bomber and very well-known, in part because of its great performance, Goodspeed said.

"It's the only aircraft in history that the Blue Angels, the Air Force Thunderbirds and the Navy have flown at the same time," he said.

The platform was decommissioned in the 1990s, and this particular plane finished out its military career as part of the "Cowboys" of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 112, a Reserve unit. However, the aircraft posed too many maintenance issues to be flown, Hodgson said. The unit instead chose to display it on a pedestal at Dallas Naval Air Station, which closed in 1998.

Hodgson believes the two Tomcats were "hangar queens" — not flown, but kept in the hangar and picked over for parts to make other planes ready for flight.

Delivered to the Navy in 1972, the Tomcat was considered large and nicknamed the "big fighter," Goodspeed said. Its maximum wing spread was 64 feet, 1 inch, compared with the Phantom's 38 feet, 4 inches. The Tomcat had a unique variable sweep wing that would automatically swing forward and back depending on the aircraft's maneuver.

"The Tomcat had a lot of public visibility through the years," Goodspeed said.

Its notable moments in history include two engagements with Libyan aircraft in the 1980s, and confronting the hijackers of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro in 1985. On the lighter side, the Tomcat starred alongside Tom Cruise in the movie "Top Gun" in 1986.

Though its first deployments were during the final stages of Vietnam, the Tomcat's service continued through Desert Storm and post-9/11 operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The F-14 was retired from operational service in 2006.

"It's definitely very symbolic of naval aviation for many years," Goodspeed said.

'A big birdhouse'

Hodgson's initial concern when he heard of the abandoned aircraft, and another reason why he felt the responsibility to contact the Navy, was the potential for the F-14s to fall into the wrong hands. The flying platform is still in use by the Iranian military, and the Navy is tight-lipped about the technology they used within them, he said. The Tomcat on display in the Fort Worth museum is just a shell, he said. There's nothing inside.

But once he saw the photos and video, his mind was at ease.

"We know the F-14s have been really nothing more than a big birdhouse," Hodgson said. "There's nothing I could see that's of any real import."

The owner of the planes did indicate he would like to see a better future for them, but for now he doesn't want people to know about them. Awareness, he said, only encourages trespassing, theft and vandalism.

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MILITARY

Kid-on-child assault on bases still escape accountability

By JUSTIN PRITCHARD
AND REESE DUNKLIN
Associated Press

Despite new rules addressing sexual assault among the children of U.S. servicemen, the federal government failed to fix a flaw that on many military bases has let alleged juvenile abusers escape accountability or treatment.

New records obtained by The Associated Press underscore how few child-on-child sex assault reports pursued by military investigators are prosecuted. That problem is most serious on U.S. installations overseas, where at least 47,000 children are enrolled in Pentagon-run schools.

Children and teens suspected of sex crimes on U.S. bases overseas often faced no legal consequences, such as court-ordered rehabilitation, records obtained through the Freedom of Information Act show. Those held to account were generally either kicked off base into the civilian world or received modest punishments, the records show.

One, for example, was told to write a 1,000-word essay about "the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touching." Another avoided punishment by enlisting in the Army. A third, who was put on curfew after two girls accused him of sexual assault, was investigated a year later in an alleged rape, a case that also went unprosecuted.

Congress ordered internal investigations and mandated Pentagon reforms last summer after an AP investigation revealed the problems of juvenile sexual assault on U.S. military bases, including the failure of the Defense and Justice Departments to help either victims or offenders.

One proposed reform would have required federal prosecutors with jurisdiction over civilians on base to transfer child-on-child sex assault cases to counterparts in state juvenile justice systems, which have resources dedicated to rehabilitation. But that requirement did not survive final negotiations over the legislation.

Federal prosecutors under pressure to win big convictions, don't take juvenile sex assault cases because they can be hard to prove and require extra paperwork, former prosecutors say. Military officials privately bemoan what they see as the Justice Department's indifference while publicly noting their own limitations.

"We could bar that kid from being on post, or we could move the family from the post, but beyond that, the authorities really reside outside the military," Army Secretary Mark Esper told senators at a May hearing.

Representatives of the Defense and Justice Departments have been meeting for several months to solve problems that the investigation highlighted.

Officials are "considering a range of options to ensure that these types of cases are effectively addressed," Justice Department spokesman Wyn Hornbuckle said. The idea is to use state courts when possible, he added.

That would not apply to U.S. installations in Europe and Asia, where U.S. officials can be reluctant to involve prosecutors from host nations.

The review of investigative reports in which military officials documented prosecution decisions found that about 1 in 10 on overseas Army, Navy or Marines bases were accepted from 2007 into 2017.

Weak cases don't explain the lack of prosecutions. Army criminal investigators concluded that nearly 90 percent of juvenile sex crime allegations on bases were credible, records show. Naval Criminal Investigative Service agents do not routinely record whether they believe allegations, but on the Navy and Marines bases where NCIS works, the AP identified two dozen unprosecuted cases in which an alleged attacker confessed.

The Justice Department refused to share data on the prosecution of juveniles for sex crimes committed overseas. The department added that its lawyers decline to prosecute cases for many reasons, including strength of evidence, age of the suspect and severity of the alleged crime.

Congress acted in response to AP stories that identified nearly 700 cases of child-on-child sexual assault or rape on American military installations worldwide over a decade. Military investigators buried some cases, the AP found, while many of those they investigated fell into the legal and bureaucratic never-land.

Military lawyers cannot prosecute the civilian children of servicemen and contractors. Given the infrequency of federal prosecution, kids suspected of sexually assaulting other kids rarely get the kind of court-supported rehabilitation that research shows will prevent most young offenders from committing another sex crime.

Lawmakers directed the Pentagon's inspector general and the Government Accountability Office to investigate. They also

ordered the Department of Defense Education Activity, which oversees the Pentagon's network of schools in seven U.S. states and 11 other countries, to create new policies to track and respond to reports of child-on-child sexual assault. Legal protections that students in U.S. public schools enjoy were extended to the military-run schools as well.

The investigation also found that the military's Family Advocacy Program has denied services to sex assault victims because their alleged attacker was not an adult. Spokeswoman Lt. Col. Carla Gleason said Pentagon experts are now "working on identifying gaps in our family advocacy processes and programs concerning problematic juvenile sexual behavior." Congress appropriated \$10 million for family advocacy services over the next year.

In contrast, efforts to pressure the Justice Department to change the way it handles juvenile sex assault prosecutions have floundered.

When Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., asked the Justice Department's inspector general to review why federal prosecutors rarely take such cases, Inspector General Michael Horowitz responded that any action would be premature, pending the outcome of the ongoing discussions between the Justice and Defense Departments.

Sen. John Cornyn, of Texas, the chamber's No. 2 Republican, had proposed requiring federal authorities to share legal jurisdiction over juvenile crimes with states. That proposal was watered down in negotiations with the House of Representatives, and the final bill that President Donald Trump signed in August contained language merely urging that such authority be shared.

Cornyn said in a statement he would "keep fighting to allow local prosecutors to pursue these cases so our most vulnerable and their families can get the justice they deserve." Spokeswoman Ryann DuRant said the senator will introduce similar legislation this year.

One of the rare cases in which federal prosecutors filed sexual assault charges against military kids involved a 10-year-old who was accused of abusing five younger boys at Fort Huachuca in Arizona.

The abuser was first reported in August 2010. Records show investigators didn't pursue a criminal case until a second report four months later. The boy was sentenced to probation and ordered to get treatment.

"He needed to go somewhere to be rehabilitated," Assistant U.S. Attorney Ann DeMarais said during a court hearing last summer after the boy landed in custody for a probation violation. "We know he can succeed and do really well in a controlled environment."



Child-on-child sex assault reforms in military

An Associated Press investigation into sex assault among children on U.S. military bases has led to changes within the Pentagon's school system and how the Defense and Justice Departments handle such cases. Some of the reforms include:

- Lawmakers required the Defense Department to create a new, centralized database for all child-on-child sexual assault reports and a militarywide policy for responding to such reports.
- The Pentagon's social services provider, the Family Advocacy Program, must review all reports and recommend, as needed, treatment, counseling or other interventions. The program received \$10 million in funding.
- The military's school system, the Department of Defense Education Activity, must improve how it reports and tracks incidents of student-on-student sexual assault and other misconduct.
- Protections afforded U.S. public

school students under Title IX, a federal law used to combat campus sex assault and harassment, were extended to children in the Pentagon's education system. They include new training for employees and the appointment of complaint coordinators for each school.

■ The military must study whether to share jurisdiction over these abuse cases with state authorities. State juvenile justice systems have more experience and resources to handle childhood sex assaults than the federal system, which on many military bases has jurisdiction over civilian crimes.

■ The Justice Department says it created a tracking system for child-on-child sex offenses referred from military bases and is studying other changes.

■ The Pentagon's inspector general and the Government Accountability Office are investigating the military's handling of child-on-child sexual assault.

— Associated Press

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NATION

Hill readers, Trump to hold border talks

White House meeting is set amid impasse

BY ZEKE MILLER
AND LISA MASCARO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democratic and Republican congressional leaders are expected to attend a briefing on border security at the White House as the government remains partially shut down and President Donald Trump asks in a tweet, "Let's make a deal!"

The partial government shutdown began on Dec. 22. Funding for Trump's pet project, a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, has been the sticking point in passing budgets for several government departments.

The Wednesday afternoon briefing will be held in the high-security Situation Room at the White House, which is typically used to handle sensitive information. The location means that the conversation will not be televised, unlike Trump's sit-down with Democratic leaders last month.

The briefing takes place the day before Democrats are to assume control of the House and end the Republican monopoly on government. The exact agenda, however, was not immediately clear, according to a person with knowledge of the briefing who was not authorized to speak publicly about the issue and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and the top incoming House Republicans — Kevin McCarthy, of California, and Steve Scalise, of Louisiana — planned to appear, according to aides. The departing House speaker, Paul Ryan, was not expected.

House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, who is expected to become speaker on Thursday, and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer planned to attend. Pelosi said Tuesday that Democrats would take action to "end the Trump Shutdown" by passing legislation Thursday to reopen government.

"We are giving the Republicans the opportunity to take yes for an answer," she wrote in a letter to colleagues. "Senate Republicans have already supported this legislation, and if they reject it now, they will be fully complicit in chaos and destruction of the President's third shutdown of his term."

The White House invitation came Tuesday after House Democrats released their plan to reopen the government without approving money for a border wall — unveiling two bills to fund shuttered government agencies and put hundreds of thousands of federal workers back on the job. They planned to pass them as soon as the new Congress convenes Tuesday.

Responding to the Democratic plan, White House press secre-

'We are giving the Republicans the opportunity to take yes for an answer.'

Nancy Pelosi
House Democrats leader

tary Sarah Huckabee Sanders late Tuesday night called it a "nonstarter" and said it won't reopen the government "because it fails to secure the border and puts the needs of other countries above the needs of our own citizens."

Trump spent the weekend saying Democrats should return to Washington to negotiate, firing off Twitter taunts. After aides suggested there would not necessarily be a traditional wall as Trump had described since his presidential campaign, Trump stated that he really still wanted to build a border wall.

On Tuesday morning, after tweeting a New Year's message to "EVERYONE INCLUDING THE HATERS AND THE FAKE NEWS MEDIA," Trump tweeted: "The Democrats, much as I suspected, have allocated no money for a new Wall. So imaginative! The problem is, without a Wall there can be no real Border Security."

But he seemed to shift tactics later in the day, appealing to Pelosi. "Border Security and the Wall 'thing' and Shutdown is not where Nancy Pelosi wanted to start her tenure as Speaker! Let's make a deal!" he tweeted.

Whether the Republican-led Senate would consider the Democratic bills — or if Trump would sign either into law — was unclear. McConnell spokesman Donald Stewart said Senate Republicans would not take action without Trump's backing.

Even if only symbolic, the passage of the bills in the House would put fresh pressure on the president. At the same time, administration officials said Trump was in no rush for a resolution to the impasse.

Trump said he believes he has public opinion on his side and, at very least, his base of supporters are behind him, the officials said, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

The Democratic package to end the shutdown would include one bill to temporarily fund the Department of Homeland Security at current levels — with \$1.3 billion for border security, far less than the \$5 billion Trump has said he wants for the wall — through Feb. 8 as talks continued.



ANA JOHNSON/AP

Tourists look at a sign Tuesday informing them that the main visitor center at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona is closed due to the partial government shutdown. Many other parts of the park remained open and accessible to visitors, including the lodges, shuttle buses and restaurants.

Parks: Superintendents must close areas where garbage, other problems affect safety

FROM FRONT PAGE

administration was leaving parks open to visitors despite the staff furloughs, said John Garder, senior budget director of the nonprofit National Parks Conservation Association.

"We're afraid that we're going to start seeing significant damage to the natural resources in parks and potentially to historic and other cultural artifacts," Garder said. "We're concerned there will be impacts to visitors' safety."

"It's really a nightmare scenario," Garder said. Under the park service's shutdown plan, authorities have to close any area where garbage or other problems become threats to health and safety or to wildlife, spokesman Jeremy Barnum said in an email Monday.

"At the superintendent's discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the expected law enforcement staff that remain on duty," Barnum said.

In the southern Sierra Nevada in Central California, some areas of the Sequoia and Kings Canyon national parks were closed Monday evening. In Sequoia, home was to immense and ancient giant sequoias, General Highway was closed because overflowing trash bins were spreading litter and posed a threat to wildlife and the icy, jammed roadway was seeing up to three-hour delays, according to the National Park Service.

Also closed was the Grant Tree Trail, a popular hiking spot, because the government shutdown halted maintenance and left the path dangerously slick from ice and snow, with at least one injury reported, the park service said.

Campers at Joshua Tree National Park in Southern California's deserts were reporting squabbles as families laid claims to sites, with no rangers on hand to adjudicate, said Ethan Feltes, who operates the Coyote Corner gift shop outside Joshua Tree.

Feltes and other business owners around Joshua Tree had stepped into the gap as much as possible, hauling trailers into the park to empty overflowing trash bins and sweeping and stocking restrooms that were still open, Feltes said.

Feltes had set up a portable toilet at his store to help the visitors still streaming in and out of the park. He was spending his days standing outside his store, offering tips about the park in place of the

rangers who normally would be present.

"The whole community has come together," Feltes said by phone. "Everyone loves the park. And there's a lot of businesses that actually need the park."

Some visitors have strung Christmas lights in the twisting Joshua trees, many of which are hundreds of years old, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Most visitors were being respectful of the desert wilderness and park facilities, Joshua Tree's superintendent, David Smith, said in a statement.

But some are seizing on the shortage of park staffers to off-road illegally and otherwise damage the park, as well as relieving themselves in the open, a park statement said. Joshua Tree said it would begin closing some campgrounds for all but day use.

At Yosemite, Snider, the local resident, said crowds of visitors were driving into the park to take advantage of free admission, with only a few park rangers working and a limited number of restrooms open.

Visitors were allowing dogs to run off-leash in an area rich with bears and other wildlife and scattering bags of garbage along the roads, Snider said.

"You're looking at Yosemite Falls and in front of you is plastic bottles and trash bags," he said.

Officials at Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado said Monday they were closing restrooms and locking up trash bins in many locations.

In Yellowstone National Park, private companies have picked up some of the maintenance normally done by federal workers. The contractors that operate park tours by snowmobile, buses and vans are grooming trails, hauling trash and replacing toilet paper at pit toilets and restrooms along their routes.

Nearly all roads inside Yellowstone are normally closed for winter, meaning most visitors at this time of the year access park attractions like Old Faithful or the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone through guides. Those guides are splitting the cost of grooming the trails used by their vehicles to keep their operations going, said Travis Watt, general manager of See Yellowstone Alpen Guides based in West Yellowstone, Mont.

The tour companies can likely keep this system going through the entire winter season if they need to, Watt said.

NATION



NORTH KOREAN BROADCASTER KRT/AP

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un delivers a New Year's speech in which he expressed hopes for his nuclear summitry with President Donald Trump while warning Washington over sanctions and pressure and saying the U.S. military should halt drills with South Korea.

N. Korea offers warnings, hope in New Year's speech

By KIM TONG-HYUNG
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said Tuesday he hopes to extend his high-stakes nuclear summitry with President Donald Trump in 2019, but also warned Washington not to test North Koreans' patience with sanctions and pressure.

During his televised New Year's speech, Kim said he's ready to meet with Trump at any time to produce an outcome "welcomed by the international community." However, he said the North will be forced to take a different path if the United States "continues to break its promises and misjudges the patience of our people by unilaterally demanding certain things and pushes ahead with sanctions and pressure."

Kim also said the United States should continue to halt its joint military exercises with ally South Korea and not deploy strategic military assets to the South. He also made a nationalistic call urging for stronger inter-Korean cooperation and said the North is ready to resume operations at a jointly run factory park in the North Korean border town of Kaesong and restart South Korean tours to the North's Diamond Mountain resort. Neither of those is possible for South Korea unless sanctions are removed.

Some analysts say North Korea has been trying to drive a wedge between Washington and Seoul while putting the larger burden of action on the United States. Pyongyang over the past months has accused Washington of failing to take corresponding measures following the North's unilateral dismantlement of a nuclear testing ground and suspension of nuclear and long-range missile tests.

Washington and Pyongyang

are trying to arrange a second summit between Trump and Kim, who met in Singapore on June 12.

"If the United States takes sincere measures and corresponding action to our leading and preemptive efforts, then (U.S.-North Korea) relations will advance at a fast and excellent pace through the process of implementing (such) definite and groundbreaking measures," said Kim.

"It is the unwavering position of our party and the republic's government and my firm will that the two countries as declared in the June 12 joint statement ... take steps to establish a permanent and stable peace regime and push toward the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," he said. "Therefore, we have already declared domestically and internationally and took various actions showing our commitment that we will no further create or test nuclear weapons and will not use or spread them."

Adam Mount, a senior analyst at the Federation of American Scientists, said Kim appears to be hinting at an agreement that falls short of a full disarmament, but could still represent a major limitation of the North Korean threat — a cap that essentially freezes the North's rudimentary nuclear capability from growing or advancing further. In exchange, the United States would have to offer major inducements, including sanctions relief.

"U.S. negotiators should move decisively in the new year to find out how far Kim is willing to go toward a verified cap on his arsenal," Mount said in an email. "Discussions on reducing or eliminating that arsenal come later."

However, Kim's statement could prove problematic if there's ongoing evidence the North's nuclear and missile facilities continue to run. Private analysts

have accused North Korea of continuing nuclear and missile development, citing details from commercial satellite imagery.

"Over the last year, signs of continued work on the arsenal were alarming but not duplicitous, because there was never a commitment to stop those activities," Mount said. "That may no longer be true, raising the risk that the White House feels cheated rather than just stonewalled."

Kim's speech also points toward a difficult year for the U.S.-South Korean alliance with their military cooperation coming under pressure from Pyongyang. Seoul's process for inter-Korean engagement, and Washington's current inability to reach an agreement on cost-sharing for the U.S. military presence in South Korea, will be critical for the allies to develop a firmer policy as it's clear the issue of joint drills is coming to a head, Mount said.

In the speech, Kim hailed the results of the North's diplomatic activities in 2018, including his three meetings with South Korean President Moon Jae-in. Kim said an inter-Korean military agreement reached in their last summit in September to reduce conventional military threats was "realistically a nonaggression declaration."

Kim also emphasized the development of the North Korean economy and, without elaborating, mentioned nuclear power as part of the country's plans to boost electricity production.

South Korea's government in a statement welcomed what it described as Kim's commitment toward peace and said Seoul plans to work closely with the international community for the denuclearization of the peninsula while also advancing inter-Korean relations to an "irreversible level."

Trump responds to harsh rebuke from Romney

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Faced with biting public criticism from Republican Sen.-elect Mitt Romney, President Donald Trump pushed back Wednesday, reminding him that "I won big, and he didn't."

Days away from joining the Senate's Republican majority, Romney broadly criticized Trump's policies and character in a newspaper column, arguing that the president "has not risen to the mantle of the office."

"With the nation so divided, resentful and angry, presidential leadership in qualities of character is indispensable," the Utah Republican and 2012 presidential nominee wrote in a Washington Post op-ed posted online Tuesday night. "And it is in this province where the incumbent's shortfall has been most glaring."

Trump fired back on Twitter, saying early Wednesday: "Here we go with Mitt Romney, but so fast! Question will be, is he a Flake? I hope not. Would much prefer that Mitt focus on Border Security and so many other things where he can be helpful. ..."

"I won big, and he didn't. He should be happy for all Republicans. Be a TEAM player & WIN!"

Trump's warning shot referred to retiring Sen. Jeff Flake, of Arizona, who has been Trump's most consistent critic among Senate Republicans. As he and other critics leave Congress, it is an open question who — if anyone — will take up the role of publicly criticizing a president who remains popular with Republican voters.

Romney's biting public assessment came as Trump and Senate Republicans faced a new governing dynamic.

Republicans on Thursday will cede control of the House to Democrats, who were prepared to oppose Trump on a number of policies and promised a slew of investigations into his actions and those of his aides and campaign officials, particularly with regard to Russia's election meddling.

Romney, a former Massachusetts governor, had criticized Trump before — notably, in a March 2016 speech he called Trump a "fraud" and opposed his bid for the GOP nomination — but later he made peace with the president-elect and even expressed interest in joining his administration.

Romney's rebuke of Trump drew a cutting reply from Brad Parscale, Trump's campaign manager.

In a tweet Tuesday night, Parscale said Romney "lacks the ability to save this nation" and



JAMES M. DOBSON, THE (SAINT GEORGE, UTAH) SPECTRUM/AP

Senator-elect Mitt Romney issued a sharp criticism of President Donald Trump in an op-ed piece Tuesday.

contended that Trump "has saved it."

"Jealousy is a drink best served warm and Romney just proved it," Parscale wrote, adding he wished "everyone had the courage" Trump had.

In the column, Romney offered approval of Trump's corporate tax policies and efforts to cut regulations, appoint conservative judges and other "policies mainstream Republicans have promoted for years. But policies and appointments are only a part of a presidency."

While saying Trump's early administration appointments had been encouraging, Romney added that, "on balance, his conduct over the past two years, particularly his actions this month, is evidence that the president has not risen to the mantle of the office."

In describing a "deep descent" by the Trump presidency in December, Romney cited the departures of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and White House chief of staff John Kelly and what he called the appointment of people of lesser experience, the abandonment of allies, and Trump's "thoughtless claim that America has long been a 'sucker' in world affairs."

Looking ahead, Romney wrote that he would act as he would with any president from either party in the White House, supporting policies he believes are in the best interest of the country and his state and opposing those that are not.

And he said he didn't intend to comment on every tweet or fault.

"But I will speak out against significant statements or actions that are divisive, racist, sexist, anti-immigrant, dishonest or destructive to democratic institutions," he said.

Romney will be sworn in as a senator on Thursday.

NATION

Changes for Ga. election system?

By KATE BRUMBACK
Associated Press

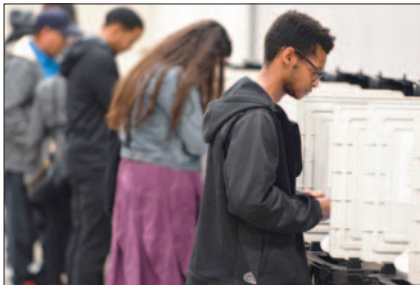
ATLANTA — Georgia's outdated election system has drawn criticism from cybersecurity experts and voting integrity advocates, and now a commission tasked with examining potential replacements is preparing to make recommendations to lawmakers.

The paperless system was closely scrutinized during last year's nationally watched gubernatorial race between Democrat Stacey Abrams and Republican Brian Kemp, who was Georgia's secretary of state and chief elections official. Abrams and her allies accused Kemp of suppressing minority votes and mismanaging the election system by neglecting elections infrastructure. Kemp, now governor-elect, has vehemently denied those allegations.

Cybersecurity experts have warned that the touchscreen voting machines Georgia has used since 2002 are unsecure and vulnerable to hacking, and provide no way to do an audit or confirm that votes have been recorded correctly because there's no paper trail.

The state's voting system has been challenged in lawsuits, including one filed after the November election by Fair Fight Action, a nonprofit backed by Abrams. In addition to the outdated machines, critics also raised concerns after security lapses exposed the personal information of Georgia voters.

U.S. District Judge Amy To-



MIKE STEWART/AP

People cast early ballots in Marietta, Ga., in October. A commission soon will make recommendations on Georgia's election system.

tenberg wrote in September that Georgia election officials had stalled too long in the face of "a mounting tide of evidence of the inadequacy and security risks" of the state's voting system. She declined to order the state to use paper ballots in the midterm elections, saying there was not enough time before voting began. But she warned that "these same arguments would hold much less sway in the future."

Kemp has insisted that the current system is secure and reliable. But after legislative efforts to replace it failed earlier this year, he established the Secure, Accessible and Fair Elections, or SAFE, Commission in April to study potential replacements.

Made up of lawmakers, politi-

cal party representatives, voters and election officials, the commission is expected to make recommendations before the legislative session begins Jan. 14. A vendor demonstration of election technology is scheduled for Thursday.

Ryan Germany, general counsel for the secretary of state's office, told the commission at a meeting last month in Macon that Georgia must act quickly.

"The 2020 election cycle is an aggressive goal, but I think it's the correct goal," he said, adding that the state would almost certainly face additional litigation if a new system isn't in place by then.

The commissioners seemed to agree Georgia's system should produce a paper record and that

election officials should conduct post-election audits.

Some commission members said they support paper ballots that voters mark by hand, filling in bubbles with a pen or pencil. But others prefer touchscreen ballot-marking machines that print a paper record.

Republican State Rep. Barry Fleming, who co-chairs the commission, said costs vary widely. Initial expenditures would be roughly \$50 million for a hand-marked paper ballot system and about \$150 million for a ballot-marking machine system, he said at last month's meeting.

Georgia Tech computer science professor Wenke Lee, the only computer and cybersecurity expert on the commission, told his fellow commissioners that technology evolves quickly and investing in an expensive, tech-heavy system could leave Georgia with an outdated system again within just a few years. He recommended hand-marked paper ballots read by optical scanner.

"From a cybersecurity point of view, that's the best available solution," he said at the meeting. "Now, if you say we don't want that, you need to justify why."

Supporters of ballot-marking machines argue that they reduce voter error and provide better accessibility for voters with disabilities. They say the touchscreen machines are similar to those in use now, so voters already know how to use them.

Critics say such machines are no more secure than the current system and don't actually allow voters to verify their votes.



RICH HEIN, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES/AP

Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson says he is encouraged by a drop in Chicago's homicide rate from 2017 to 2018.

Police data: Homicides in Chicago down in '18

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Preliminary numbers indicate that homicides in Chicago fell by about 100 last year compared with in 2017, though the total again eclipses the number of homicides in Los Angeles and New York combined, according to data released Tuesday.

Police in Chicago, the nation's third-largest city, report that 561 homicides were committed between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2018. That compares with 660 homicides in 2017 and more than 770 in 2016, which marked a 19-year high that put a national spotlight on Chicago's persistently high rates of gun violence.

Chicago police credit the decreases in part to the addition of more than 1,000 new officers in recent years. Police also cite the creation of high-tech nerve centers in 20 out of 22 police districts, where officers rely on gunshot-detection technology and predictive analytics that help quickly get police to areas where violence is most likely to erupt.

"Are we where we want to be? Of course not," Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson told the Chicago Tribune in a recent interview. But he added, "I do think we are taking steps in the right direction."

Official numbers for 2018 are expected to be released in several weeks, according to the department. Johnson has previously said "a reasonable goal" would be to one day get the annual number of homicides to below 300.

Although the decrease in 2018 is significant, the homicide total is a repeat of 2016 and 2017, when the number of killings in Chicago was higher than the combined total in the country's two other largest cities. As of about mid-December, New York reported 278 homicides and Los Angeles had 243.

The release of the crime data comes as a judge continues to mull over whether to approve a more than 200-page plan drafted by the city and the Illinois attorney general to reform Chicago police under federal court supervision.

Wash. bans anyone under 21 from buying assault rifles

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Washington on Tuesday joined a handful of other states that ban anyone under 21 from buying a semi-automatic assault rifle after voters passed a sweeping firearms measure in November that has drawn a court challenge from gun rights advocates.

The ballot initiative seeks to curb gun violence by toughening background checks for people buying assault rifles, increasing the age limit to buy those firearms and requiring the safe storage of all guns. Only the age-limit portion of the measure goes into effect on Jan. 1; the rest becomes law Jan. 1.

Kristen Ellingboe, a spokeswoman for the Washington Alliance for Gun Responsibility, said the initiative was one of the most comprehensive gun violence prevention measures to pass in the state in decades. The measure targeted "semi-automatic assault rifles" in response to mass shootings across the country, she said.

"We've seen that assault rifles are the weapon of choice for mass shootings, and when they're used, more people are killed and injured," Ellingboe said.

Fifty-nine percent of Wash-

ington voters approved Initiative 1639 in the Nov. 6 general election.

"We've seen time and again that Washington voters want action to prevent gun violence in our state," Ellingboe said. "They showed that again by supporting 1639 by a wide margin."

Opponents have sued to block it. "Starting today, young adults between the ages of 18 to 20 will have their rights to purchase semi-automatic rifles stripped away," said Dave Workman, a spokesman for the Bellevue, Wash.-based Second Amendment Foundation.

The federal lawsuit says the measure violates the Second and 14th amendments of the Constitution as well as gun sellers' rights under the Commerce Clause. Plaintiffs in the lawsuit are firearms dealers in Spokane and Vancouver, a 19-year-old competitive shooter, a 19-year-old in the Army Reserve, a 20-year-old recreational shooter, the Second Amendment Foundation and the National Rifle Association.

Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson said in an email he "looks forward to representing the people of the state of Washington in court against the NRA."



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

A semi-automatic rifle, with "God Bless America" imprinted on it, is displayed at a gun shop in Lynnwood, Wash. State law now prevents anyone under age 21 from buying a semi-automatic assault rifle.

The full measure, when it goes into effect later this year, will expand the background check process to ensure that vetting for rifle purchases is the same as for buying pistols. Now, people in Washington who buy long guns are run through the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System, or NICS. Background checks for handgun sales are done by local law enforcement agencies that can access NICS

as well as more detailed records that might expose mental health issues or harder-to-find criminal records. And you must be 21 to purchase a pistol.

In most states, you must be 18 to buy an assault rifle. But Florida passed a law after a school shooting to increase the age limit to 21. Four other states — Hawaii, Illinois, Vermont and New York — also prohibit anyone under 21 from buying all firearms.

NATION

Prayer, not policy slated at meeting on clergy abuse

By JEFF KAROUB
Associated Press

DETROIT — U.S.-based Roman Catholic bishops were gathering Wednesday for a week-long retreat near Chicago on the church sexual abuse scandal that organizers say will focus on prayer and spiritual reflection and not formulating policy.

The retreat begins a day after The Associated Press reported that the Vatican blocked U.S. bishops from taking measures last year to address the scandal because U.S. church leaders didn't discuss the legally problematic proposals with the Holy See enough beforehand.

The rebuke from Rome was contained in a letter from a Vatican official before the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops met in November. The move stunned abuse survivors and some other Catholics demanding actions.

The retreat also is a prelude to a summit of the world's bishops at the Vatican next month to forge a comprehensive response to the crisis that has lashed the church.

The meetings follow two blistering reports during 2018 from state attorneys general — in Illinois and Pennsylvania — alleging negligence by state church leaders.

Organizers say the meetings are about prayer, not policy-making.

According to the Archdiocese of Chicago spokeswoman, Anne Maselli, bishops gathering at the Mundelein Seminary will be praying, fasting and participating in spiritual lectures. And they will be alone. No staff members, other priests or members of the public or media are invited.

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said in a news release that they are convening "to pray on the intense matters before us."

The Catholic seminary at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, 40 miles north of Chicago, is the largest of its kind in the U.S. and home to roughly 200 seminarians from about 40 dioceses across the country and globe.

Francis has dispatched the Rev. Raniero Cantalamessa, the official papal preacher, to lead the retreat. And it's no accident that it's being held in Chicago, long considered a center of American Catholicism. The hosting Chicago archbishop, Cardinal Blase Cupich, was Francis' first major U.S. appointment and was picked by the pope to help organize the Vatican summit.

Cupich, who is considered a moderate, was the lead signatory on a recent letter to bishops around the world warning that

a failure to deal with abuse now will jeopardize the church's mission globally. It also urged summit attendees to meet with clergy sexual abuse victims "to learn firsthand the suffering they have endured."

Cupich issued a statement expressing regret for "our failures to address the scourge of clerical sexual abuse" after Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan's report in December alleging that the church had failed to disclose the names of at least 500 clergy members in the state accused of sexually abusing children.

A Pennsylvania grand jury report early last year alleged that hundreds of priests abused at least 1,000 children over seven decades in that state.

Notre Dame researcher and teacher Timothy O'Malley said the summit could accomplish a good deal. He said one of Francis' biggest concerns has been that the bishops experience a spiritual renewal — and "a spirit of penance" — along with regulations governing their behavior.

"When the bishops meet in public to discuss these procedures, there is a danger that it's less an act of contrition and more an occasion for scoring political points," he said. "Part of the corruption is based in a certain clerical culture where bishops pursued self-interest, whether their own or their diocese's, at the expense of listening to lay victims. This retreat ... is a first step toward a renewal of the (church leadership) as a whole in the United States."

Many abuse victims are dismayed that it has taken so long for the church leadership to meet and act. Two advocacy groups, the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, or SNAP, and Ending Clergy Abuse, planned to hold a public demonstration Wednesday in Chicago.

SNAP says in a statement that it wants Cupich removed from his prominent role in planning the papal summit, and that DiNardo should not lead the U.S. delegation to the Rome summit.

Zach Hiner, SNAP's executive director, said he's glad leaders are gathering "to find ways to address this crisis, but a week spent in silent prayer is not the response the public is looking for."

"If church officials truly want to do what is best, then they should be spending this week discussing how they can best comply with independent investigations by law enforcement, or how they can compel law enforcement officials in their state to act if it's such investigation has begun yet," Hiner said.



Alexandra Black pets Niko the wolf at Wolf Park in Battle Ground, Ind., in December. Black, an intern at the Conservators Center in North Carolina, was fatally mauled, and animal welfare advocates are calling for a crackdown on unaccredited exhibitors of dangerous animals.
MONTY SLOAN/
WOLF PARK/CP

Intern's mauling at NC wildlife center prompts call for change

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — The fatal mauling of a zoo intern by a lion that escaped from a locked pen illustrates the need for North Carolina regulators to crack down on unaccredited exhibitors of dangerous animals, animal welfare advocates said Monday.

Alexandra Black, 22, was attacked Sunday while cleaning an animal enclosure with other staff members. It was at least the 10th instance of an escape or attack by an animal at a privately run North Carolina wildlife facility since 1997, according to the Humane Society of the United States.

Officials said the lion somehow escaped from a nearby pen and killed the recent college graduate

just two weeks after she started working at the Conservators Center near Burlington. Sheriff's deputies shot and killed the animal before retrieving Black's body. Before deputies fired on the lion, officials made several attempts to tranquilize it or hold it at bay with fire hoses, the Caswell County Sheriff's Office said.

Visitors at the center were hustled out of the park, said facility Executive Director Mindy Stinner.

It was not immediately clear how the lion escaped or whether it got out of the enclosure that was being cleaned. Staff said the lion never made it beyond the park's perimeter fence. The park was

closed indefinitely.

Black, who was from New Palestine, Ind., graduated from Indiana University in May with a degree in animal behavior.

While the center is USDA-licensed, animal welfare advocates note that it's not accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, which requires facilities to meet strict animal safety and security standards.

The center was founded in 1999 as an educational nonprofit dedicated to providing a specialized home for select carnivore species," according to its website. The site says it houses 21 species and gets more than 16,000 visitors annually.

Advertisement for ABC Travel Service featuring a photo of three smiling people (two men and one woman) in military uniforms.

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NATION

Woman dies after car hits building

Associated Press

FALL RIVER, Mass. — A woman who crashed her car into a Fall River apartment building, setting off a massive fire, died Tuesday, authorities said.

Hours after officials said the fire had been put out, the blaze flared again. WHDH-TV aired footage of flames coming from the roof of the Four Winds Apartments on North Main Street. Firefighters were dousing them with water from a cherry picker attached to their truck.

The fire began Tuesday morning after Judith Mauretti, 72, of Fall River, crashed her car into the building. Emergency crews arrived to find Mauretti dead in her vehicle, the Bristol District Attorney's Office said.

A 75-year-old Fall River woman who was a passenger was taken to Rhode Island Hospital in critical condition.

The building was evacuated after the crash, which ruptured a gas line, WHDH reported. The district attorney's office earlier said all of the occupants were accounted for and there were no reports of injuries among them.

Four firefighters were hospitalized for exhaustion. Fall River Fire Chief John Lynch told The Herald News none was seriously injured.

Witnesses said the car was moving fast Tuesday morning when it jumped the curb and crashed into the building, according to Lynch.



JACK FOLEY, THE HERALD NEWS OF FALL RIVER, MASS./AP

Freighters try to contain a fire on Wednesday in Fall River, Mass., that was set off by a woman who crashed her car into an apartment building Tuesday. She was found dead in her car by rescue workers.

He told The Boston Globe that the car drove 15 feet into the first floor of the building.

More than 100 firefighters responded to the initial blaze. Several apartments were damaged.

16 of burning Panamanian vessel's 21 crew members rescued in Pacific

Associated Press

HONOLULU — Good Samaritans on nearby merchant vessels rescued 16 members of the crew of a Panamanian car carrier heading from Japan to Hawaii that caught fire in the Pacific Ocean, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

Three of the remaining five crew members of the Sincerity Ace were found, but they are still in the water because they are unresponsive, the Coast Guard said.

The other two crew members haven't been found, the agency said.

The Sincerity Ace caught fire early Monday morning 1,800 nautical miles northwest of Hawaii. The Coast Guard has not said what caused the fire on the 650-foot ship.

The Sincerity Ace is adrift on the high seas, the Coast Guard said. Commercial tugs have been dispatched by the company to salvage the ship, the agency said.

"We are thankful for the assistance the crews of these merchant vessels have given us during this event, significantly reducing possible response time," said Lt. Duane Zitta, of the Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu. "Their quick actions provided for the rescue of 16 members of the crew who would otherwise still be in the water and are continuing to aid us."

The U.S. Navy is helping with search efforts.

Dakota pipeline developer slow to replace trees

Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. — The developer of the Dakota Access oil pipeline missed a year-end deadline to plant thousands of trees along the pipeline corridor in North Dakota, but the company said it was still complying with a settlement of allegations it violated state rules.

Texas-based Energy Transfer

Partners, which built the \$3.8 billion pipeline that's now moving North Dakota oil to Illinois, is falling back on a provision of the September 2017 agreement that provides more time should the company run into problems. The company must provide 20,000 trees to county soil conservation districts along the pipeline's 359-mile route across North Dakota.

Only about 8,800 of the required 20,000 additional trees were planted in 2018 through county soil conservation districts due to several factors, including equipment and staffing issues, difficulties finding willing landowners and poor planting conditions, according to Perennial Environmental Services, which ETP hired to handle the work.

Sports betting not likely states' revenue all-star

Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — The race to legalize sports betting is on now that the U.S. Supreme Court has allowed it in all 50 states, but will it provide enough extra tax revenue to make much of a difference for schools, roads or pension debt?

Don't bet on it.

Just look to the states that capitalized immediately after the court's ruling last spring and to Nevada, which previously had an effective monopoly on sports gambling. Even though the market is still developing, the returns to date have been modest.

In Nevada, revenue from sports betting has accounted for roughly one-half of 1 percent of the entire state budget.

"Everything I've seen so far suggests that this would not be what one would consider to be a pot of gold," said Ohio state Sen. John Eklund, a Republican who introduced legislation to legalize sports betting in his state.

Delaware, Mississippi, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and West Virginia legalized sports betting last year after the Supreme Court decision, as did the District of Columbia. Although New Mexico has not passed a sports betting law, the Santa Ana Star Casino & Hotel started taking bets in October through a tribal gambling compact.

Lawmakers in Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee and Virginia already have filed bills to allow sports betting, and those who track the industry expect a total of 30 states to consider similar ones this year.

The expected stampede of states seeking to legalize it has parallels to the growing trend toward legalizing recreational marijuana, which 10 states have done and others are considering.

As with marijuana, lawmakers say they are motivated in large part by the sports betting has been a black market activity outside Nevada. Legalizing it would allow states to impose regulations and take in at least some money.

"I keep telling them this is not like a craps table or a slot machine," said Mark Sickles, a Democratic state lawmaker in Virginia who has sponsored a bill that would place a 15 percent tax on sports betting. "My main purpose is to take something that's currently being done illegally and get some tax revenue from it."

Nevada was the first state to legalize sports betting after the court decision last May. The state's gambling industry took in \$928 million worth of sports bets since the first one was taken on June 14 through November. From the state's record, it took less than \$8 million in tax revenue.



WAYNE PARRY/AP

Harry Carson, left, a former New York Giants linebacker, places a bet on the New York Yankees to win the 2019 World Series at Resorts Casino in Atlantic City, N.J., in November.

Even if the state meets its projection of \$25 million in sports betting tax revenue for a full year, that would amount to well under one-tenth of 1 percent of the state's \$374 billion budget.

Former New Jersey state Sen. Raymond Lesniak began the effort to legalize sports betting there 10 years ago with what at the time seemed like a quixotic lawsuit against the federal government. He said sports gambling was not supposed to be a big moneymaker for the state.

"It wasn't intended to do that," he said. "I was driven by the fact that the Atlantic City casino industry was dying and the horse racing industry was on life support. It needed an injection of new money and new people that would come, fill up rooms, eat in restaurants, spend money."

Experts say sports betting revenue in New Jersey and elsewhere is likely to be diluted as more and more states jump into the game.

New Jersey's market is being squeezed on one side by Pennsylvania, which recently began offering sports betting, and on the other by New York, which is likely to pursue legislation just a few years away.

For perspective, New Jersey's casino revenue at the end of 2006, when Pennsylvania opened its first casino, was \$5.2 billion. A decade later, that number had been cut in half and Pennsylvania had more casinos.

The states that have launched sports betting this year expect they will bring in tax revenue that ranges from about \$5 million in Mississippi and West Virginia to \$25 million in New Jersey. In each state, hitting those targets would account for just a fraction of 1 percent of state spending.

"Legalized sports gambling is not a way to raise revenue for the government; it is not a mechanism to create jobs," said Minnesota state Sen. Patrick Garofalo, a Republican who runs a high-volume, low-margin business.

NATION

BY IAN SHAPIRA
The Washington Post

He has auctioned the journals of Nazi death camp doctor Josef Mengele for \$300,000, Adolf Hitler's telephone from the Funker for \$243,000 and Hitler's ring featuring a swastika made of 16 rubies for more than \$65,000. And just before Thanksgiving, a Hitler-inscribed propaganda photograph that shows the architect of the Holocaust hugging a German girl of Jewish heritage went for more than \$11,000.

Big money abounds in the Nazi artifact market, and Basil "Bill" Panagopolos, founder of Alexander Historical Auctions in Maryland, is the trade's unabashed promoter. But at a time of growing anti-Semitism and white nationalism, the buying and selling of Hitler's belongings and other Third Reich trinkets — including counterfeits — is stirring up the same kind of debate that has dogged displays of Confederate flags and Civil War statues.

Which items of the past are worth keeping? Which spoils of war should be preserved? And which symbols of hatred are better off consigned to history's trash heap?

Online giants like Facebook and eBay, along with Christie's and Sotheby's, have come down hard against the sale of Nazi artifacts, curbing or banning their sale. Right after the sale of the Hitler photo in Maryland, another sale this month in Australia of some 75 Nazi artifacts kicked up a national controversy and prompted a rebuke from the local Anti-Defamation Commission.

Still, the demand for these objects is intensifying, according to Terry Kovel, co-founder of a 51-year-old antique price guide for antiques and memorabilia.

"The market for historic Nazi memorabilia is definitely growing," she said. "A lot of people are afraid the whole Nazi thing has been forgotten, and they want to show what was going on. More of it is coming out of hiding, too, because so much of the material came home with soldiers who are getting to the age of dying, and their families are selling it off."

Many Jewish groups, though not all, have denounced these sales.

Haim Gertner, the archives director of Yad Vashem, Israel's leading Holocaust memorial, said some of Hitler's personal items are worth saving, especially if the owners of Nazi artifacts believe that the material and anti-Semitic history should never be forgotten. But selling these artifacts to the highest bidder, he said, "is incorrect and even immoral."

Rabbi Marvin Hier, founder of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, said some Hitler or Nazi party documents or objects should be preserved, particularly their writings revealing their murderous aims. But, he said, other Nazi memorabilia — much of which was smuggled out of Germany by American servicemen — merely inflate the dictator's mystique and embolden anti-Semites.

'The Hitler salute'

"The Hitler salute is coming back in this country, and bigots get their nourishment from seeing things like this photo and the girl," Hier said. "People will see that photo and say, 'Maybe Hitler had a good side to him and 'Don't you love him so badly.'"

But Panagopolos, 60, whose auction house is based about 100 miles northeast of Washington, said the market is being driven by World War II movies, documentaries and endless segments on the History Channel, he said. "The Hitler Channel." Many buyers of the expensive, headline-generating Nazi memorabilia are Jewish.

One of them is Michael Bulmash, 74, a retired Jewish clinical psychologist from Delaware. He has spent the last two decades buying Holocaust material, a sizable portion from Alexander Historical Auctions. He has donated everything — in-

HATRED OR HISTORY?

Selling Nazi artifacts stirs backlash

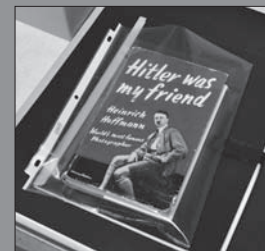


PHOTOS BY EILEEN BLASS/The Washington Post

Basil "Bill" Panagopolos, president of Alexander Historical Auctions in Chesapeake City, Md., shows the 1933 Heinrich Hoffmann photograph of Hitler with Rosa Bernle Nienau, known as "the fuhrer's child."



Above: Worker Tammy Pearce packs a recently sold swastika desk ornament in November 2018. Right: A book by Hoffmann is among items sold at auction.



cluding children's books published by the anti-Semitic publisher Julius Streicher and an old back issue of Streicher's newspaper, Der St — to his alma mater, Kenyon College in Ohio, for the Bulmash Family Holocaust Collection.

"It's all about getting this stuff out in people's faces," Bulmash said, "especially when you had neo-Nazis marching in Charlottesville (Va.) and the president of the United States creating a false equivalence between who neo-Nazis were doing and what the people who were trying to stop them were doing."

Another Panagopolos client, Howard Cohen, 68, a retired Jewish optometrist in Pittsburgh, keeps all kinds of "anti-Semitic" Nazi items in his home, including a Der Stahlführer featuring a caricature of a hook-nosed Jew he got for about \$2,000. He hides the material in drawers or boxes so no houseguest would ever see them. His wife and adult children do not necessarily approve or understand, he said.

All his clients are serious history buffs. Panagopolos said, not skinheads or white nationalists.

"Skinheads don't have the means for it, and even if they did have the means, they would have no historical appreciation for it," Panagopolos said. "I'm not some knuck-

lehead, blood-drooling neo-Nazi. My wife is Jewish. Her mother is an orthodox Jew. Her father is a Jew. And my father's hometown in Greece was wiped out by Germans in World War II."

But the image of Hitler still resonates with extremists. James A. Fields Jr. — a self-professed neo-Nazi convicted of first-degree murder on Dec. 7 for driving his car into a crowd of counterprotesters in Charlottesville, killing one woman and wounding 35 others — texted his mother a meme of Hitler when she urged him to be careful at the "Unite the Right" rally.

"We're not the one who need (sic) to be careful," Fields told her.

Third Reich memorabilia

Panagopolos established his auction house in Stamford, Conn., in 1991, first specializing in far less incendiary fare: a lock of President Abraham Lincoln's hair or presidential autographs. Then, about eight years ago, he got into Third Reich memorabilia.

His first attention-getters were two sets of Mengele journals. In 2010, he sold one notebook for close to \$50,000 to an orthodox Jew whose grandmother survived Auschwitz. But the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants

organization found the sale disgusting and asked Richard Blumenthal, then Connecticut's attorney general, to investigate its authenticity.

"I sympathize with their revulsion regarding the apparent profit from this journal," Blumenthal said in a statement at the time.

Spokespersons for Blumenthal and the Holocaust survivors group said they do not recall whether a probe was ever launched. Panagopolos said Blumenthal, now a Democratic senator from Connecticut, never contacted him.

A year later, he sold the remainder of Mengele's journals, for \$300,000. The buyer was also a Jew, Panagopolos said. But the sale still generated a backlash.

"If you really want to despise someone, look no further than Stamford, Conn., where you can find Basil (Bill) Panagopolos who runs Alexander Historical Auctions," began an op-ed in the New York Daily News by an American Gathering executive.

Undeterred, Panagopolos continued selling all manner of paraphernalia: a cache of medical documents showing the fuhrer suffered from flatulence and was injected with an extract of bull testicles to jumpstart his libido; an archive of letters, poetry and school papers of Nazi propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels; and a U.S. Army interrogator's notes of his interview with Hitler's doctors that revealed Hitler took female hormones.

The grisliest item

In 2014, after Panagopolos moved the auction house to Chesapeake City, Md., he sold perhaps his grisliest item: a blood-stained scrap of fabric from the sofa where Hitler shot himself on April 30, 1945. The winning bid: \$18,000. He kept another piece for himself but does not display it.

"Strange, isn't it? Why would someone keep this?" he asked, clutching the cloth. "But what a rarity!"

Although Panagopolos is a proud spokesman for his trade, many others who deal in Nazi material are far more secretive.

Case in point: both the consignee and the buyer of the photo showing Hitler hugging Rosa Bernle Nienau, a girl of Jewish descent, Hitler's close friend, Heinrich Hoffmann, photographed Hitler with many children and made multiple prints of the same photos, which were widely distributed across Germany. But Hitler liked Nienau so much — they shared the same birthday, April 20 — that she earned the moniker "the fuhrer's child" and she called him "Uncle Hitler."

When The Washington Post reached Don Boyle, of Scranton, Pa., a well-known collector of World War II German artifacts, he said he had once owned the photo and traded it in 2007 to Arizona collector Jeff Clark, who runs a website that sells Nazi period items anonymously.

It was Clark who consigned the photo to Panagopolos, Boyle said.

In an email, Clark denied knowing about the photograph, let alone selling it. "I had to (Google) to find out what you were talking about," he wrote.

The sale of the photo was covered by news around the world. One Amsterdam-based journalist questioned the authenticity of Hitler's inscription: "The dear and considerate" Rosa Nienau Adolf Hitler Munich, the 16th June 1933."

"(Counterfeit Nazi junk," declared Bart FM Droog, who is working on a book about fake Hitler artifacts.

Eileen Quinlan, who chairs the British Institute of Graphologists, said the photo's inscription matches with some of Hitler's earlier known handwriting, especially his autograph.

"I've seen hundreds of Hitler autographs. I am confident in the signature," Panagopolos said. "And if I'm wrong? I'm on the hook in perpetuity. We offer a one hundred percent warranty of authenticity."

WORLD

US officials meet with American held in Russia

From wire reports

U.S. Embassy officials in Moscow on Wednesday were given permission to meet with Paul Whelan, an American arrested last week after being accused of visiting Russia on a "spy mission."

No details were immediately available of the meeting, which came shortly after Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said they expected to have consular access to Whelan — a Marine Corps veteran — "within the next hours."

A few hours later, the Foreign Ministry told Russian media that access had been granted on Wednesday afternoon in Moscow. It was not clear how long the visit lasted or what his condition is.

"The family received a notification from the State Department today that consular access was granted today," said a person

familiar with the situation, speaking on the condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the case.

Meanwhile, the Marine Corps said Whelan was convicted in a 2008 court-martial on charges related to larceny.

Whelan's service record was released Wednesday at the Pentagon and shows he joined the Marine Reserves in 1994 and rose to the rank of staff sergeant in 2004.

Whelan was an administrative clerk and administrative chief and deployed for the war in Iraq for several months in 2004 and 2006.



Whelan

He was convicted at a special court-martial in January 2008 and given a bad-conduct discharge in December 2008 at the rank of private. Details of the larceny charges were not released.

Whelan's last place of duty was Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

Whelan's first visit by U.S. Embassy officials came six days after he was arrested, which exceeds the 72-hour time frame laid out in the Vienna Convention.

Speaking to reporters in Brasilia, where he attended the inauguration of the new president, Pompeo also said the United States will demand Whelan's release if it is determined his arrest was unjust.

"We've made clear to the Russians our expectation that we will learn more about the charges, come to understand what it is he's been accused of, and if the detention

is not appropriate we will demand his immediate return," he said.

Whelan, 48, a former Marine, was in Moscow last week for the wedding of a fellow Marine on Dec. 28, his family has said, the same day he was detained by Russia's domestic security service.

"We are deeply concerned for his safety and well-being," his family said in a statement.

"His innocence is undoubted and we trust that his rights will be respected."

Whelan is the corporate security director for BorgWarner, an automotive parts supplier based in Auburn Hills, Mich.

He has visited the country several times and is said to speak passable Russian.

The Washington Post and The Associated Press contributed to this report

German car attack suspect in detention

Associated Press

BERLIN — A German man who repeatedly drove into crowds and injured eight people in apparent intentional attacks against foreigners has been ordered kept in detention pending possible charges, police said Wednesday.

The attacks began shortly after midnight on Jan. 1, first in Bottrop in western Germany and later in the nearby city of Essen. The 50-year-old suspect, who comes from Essen, is believed to have no previous police record.

The victims included a 46-year-old Syrian woman who suffered life-threatening injuries.

Police said a judge on Tuesday night ordered the suspect held in detention while the investigation on suspicion of attempted murder continues.

They say the suspect made anti-foreigner comments during his arrest and there were indications he had been treated for mental illness in the past.

The attacks came after four

teenagers from Afghanistan, Syria and Iran were arrested on suspicion of bodily harm following assaults on passers-by near the railway station in the southeastern town of Amberg on Saturday. The four were apparently intoxicated and 12 people were hurt, in most cases slightly.

There was no indication of any link between the events, other than that both underlined tensions in Germany over migration.

German government spokeswoman Martina Fietz said Wednesday the government had learned "with dismay" of both the assaults and the attacks.

"There is no place in Germany for extremism, xenophobia and intolerance, no matter what side it comes from," she told reporters.

The Amberg incident prompted Interior Minister Horst Seehofer to tell the Bild daily that "if asylum-seekers carry out violent crimes, they must leave our country." He said, if necessary, laws should be changed to make that possible.

Spanish police find 2 African migrants hidden in mattresses

Associated Press

MADRID — Desperate to reach Europe from North Africa, two African migrants were discovered by police attempting to cross the Spanish border hidden inside a pair of mattresses.

A video shot by a mobile phone of the move Sunday went viral in Spain. It showed agents of Spain's Civil Guard taking two mattresses off the top of a van and cutting them open to reveal two young men inside.

The Civil Guard told The Associated Press on Tuesday the incident occurred at a border crossing from Morocco to Melilla, one of two Spanish cities on the North African coast.

The two migrants told the police they each paid \$5,100 to a human trafficker to attempt the crossing. The driver of the van fled on foot when agents asked to inspect his cargo. The two men were taken to a migrant holding center.

Also Tuesday, Spain's maritime rescue service said its craft saved 111 migrants trying to cross the Strait of Gibraltar or nearby waters.

More than 2,200 migrants died trying to reach Europe across the Mediterranean Sea in 2018, according to the U.N. Refugee Agency. Following crackdowns on immigration by Italy and other countries, Spain has become the preferred route to Europe for migrants and their traffickers.



MAXIM SHMAROV/AP

Emergency Situations employees look toward debris of damaged parts of a collapsed apartment building in Magnitogorsk, Russia, a city about 870 miles southeast of Moscow, on Wednesday.

Death toll rises in collapse of apartment building in Russia

By JIM HEINTZ

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Search crews have pulled more bodies from a huge pile of rubble at a collapsed Russian apartment building, bringing the known death toll to 21.

The bodies found on Wednesday in the city of Magnitogorsk included a 3-year-old girl, Russian news agencies cited the emergency ministry as saying.

An 11-month-old boy named Ivan Pokin was pulled alive from the wreckage on Tuesday, nearly 36 hours after the building collapsed. He was in serious but stable condition in a children's hospital in Moscow officials said, with fractures, a head injury and suffering from hypothermia and frostbite after his ordeal. He was flown about 870 miles to the capital in a plane dispatched by the Health Ministry.

Health Minister Veronika



AP

An 11-month-old baby is seen at the scene of a collapsed section of an apartment building in Magnitogorsk on Tuesday.

Skvortsova said Wednesday that the boy suffered superficial head wounds but no apparent brain damage.

Regional governor Boris Dubrovsky was quoted as saying by the Interfax news agency that the child apparently had been protected by being in a crib and being wrapped warmly.

Authorities said 20 people who lived in the building remain unaccounted for, including five children.

The prospects of finding any of them alive in the rubble appeared dim after two frigid nights in which temperatures fell to about minus 4 degrees Fahrenheit. However, a cat was pulled alive from the wreckage on Wednesday afternoon, about 60 hours after a section of the 10-story building collapsed.

The Monday pre-dawn disaster came after an explosion that officials say was likely caused by a gas leak.

A day of mourning was declared in the Chelyabinsk region that includes Magnitogorsk, and residents laid flowers and place candles at the scene. Some Muscovites laid commemorative flowers at the entrance of the office for the regional government's representative in the capital.

WORLD



TIM KILDEBORG JENSEN, RITZAU SCANPIX/AP

A rescue worker walks at the site of a train accident on the Great Belt Bridge-Storebæltsbroen in Nyborg, Denmark, on Wednesday. Police spokesman Arne Gram said the passenger train "hit an unknown object."

Train crash in Denmark leaves 6 dead, 16 injured

By JAN M. OLSEN
Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Six people were killed and 16 others injured early Wednesday when a Danish passenger train apparently hit falling cargo from a passing freight train as it crossed a bridge linking central Denmark's islands.

The rail operator, Danish Railways, earlier told Denmark's TV2 that the victims were passengers on a train going from the city of Odense, on the central Danish island of Fyn, to Copenhagen when the accident took place about 8 a.m. local time.

Police spokesman Lars Braemhoej said that while "we do not know precisely what caused the accident," one possible cause was that cargo from a passing freight train fell off and hit the passenger train. He added there was "considerable damage" on the passenger train.

Police declined to comment on a report from Denmark's TV2 channel that a container had likely fallen off the cargo train.

Danish media initially reported that a tarpaulin on a freight train hit the passenger train, which was going in the opposite direction, prompting it to brake violently.

"Ordinary Danes on their way to work or heading home from the Christmas holidays have had their lives smashed," said Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen.

Photos from the scene show the freight train was

carrying crates of beer, and the tarpaulin that covered the train was torn in pieces.

Kasper Elbjørn, spokesman for Danish brewery group Carlsberg, confirmed that a freight train transporting its cargo was involved in the accident. Police said those hurt sustained light to moderate injuries.

Jesper Nielsen, who was on the passenger train, told Denmark's TV2 the train "was out on the bridge when there was a huge 'bang' ... very quickly thereafter, the train braked."

The accident took place on a road-and-rail bridge, part of the Storebælt system of bridges and a tunnel linking the Danish islands of Zealand and Funen.

Flemming Jensen, the CEO of state-owned Danish Railways, said police and the Danish Accident Investigation Board are investigating the damages. He said the operator "will contribute everything that we can to the investigations."

In a statement, police urged passengers to contact next of kin to inform them of their safety and urged people not to share photos and videos of the accident.

The government agency responsible for Danish railways said on Twitter no trains would cross the Storebælt link Wednesday, adding it was aiming to allow crossings Thursday.

The transport system was closed to cars overnight because of strong winds but trains could move. Road traffic resumed Wednesday with a 31 mph speed limit.

day accuses Nicholas Haysom of diplomatic overreach that violated the Horn of Africa nation's sovereignty, declaring him "persona non grata." He arrived as envoy a few months ago.

Haysom had questioned the legal basis used in the arrest last month of Mukhtar Robow, a former al-Shabab spokesman who defected from the group in 2017, and whether U.N.-funded regional police in the

Southwest were involved.

Ethiopian troops who are part of the African Union force in Somalia and Somali police arrested Robow days before the regional election in which Robow had been a leading candidate.

Robow was flown to Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, and had been held in a prison run by Somalia's intelligence agency.

A U.N. spokesman said they were not

US, Israel cite bias for UNESCO pullout

By THOMAS ADAMSON
Associated Press

PARIS — The United States and Israel officially quit the U.N.'s educational, scientific and cultural agency at the stroke of midnight, the culmination of a process triggered more than a year ago amid concerns that the organization fosters anti-Israel bias.

The withdrawal is mainly procedural yet serves a new blow to UNESCO, co-founded by the U.S. after World War II to foster peace.

The Trump administration filed its notice to withdraw in October 2017 and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu followed suit.

The Paris-based organization has been denounced by its critics as a crucible for anti-Israel bias. It was blasted for criticizing Israel's occupation of East Jerusalem, naming ancient Jewish sites as Palestinian heritage sites and granting full membership to Palestine in 2011.

The U.S. has demanded "fundamental reform" in the agency that is best known for its World Heritage program to protect cultural sites and traditions. UNESCO also works to improve education for girls, promote understanding of the Holocaust's horrors and to defend media freedom.

The withdrawals will not greatly affect UNESCO financially, since it has been dealing with a funding slash ever since 2001 when both Israel and the U.S. stopped paying dues after Palestine was voted in as a member state. Since then officials estimate that the U.S. — which accounted for around 22 percent of the total budget — has accrued \$600 million in unpaid dues, which was one of the reasons for President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw.

Israel owes an estimated \$10 million.

UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay took up her post just after Trump announced the pullout. Azoulay, who has Jewish and Moroccan heritage, has presided over the launch of a Holocaust education website and the U.N.'s first educational guidelines on fighting anti-Semitism — initiatives that might be seen as responding to U.S. and Israeli concerns.

Officials say that many of the reasons the U.S. cited for with-



CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

The United States and Israel have quit UNESCO, the U.N.'s educational, scientific and cultural agency, arguing the organization fosters anti-Israel bias.

drawal do not apply anymore, noting that since then, all 12 texts on the Middle East passed at UNESCO have been consensual among Israel and Arab member states.

In April of last year, Israel's ambassador to UNESCO said the mood was "like a wedding" after member nations signed off on a rare compromise resolution on "Occupied Palestine," and UNESCO diplomats hailed a possible breakthrough on longstanding Israeli-Arab tensions.

The document was still quite critical of Israel, however, and the efforts weren't enough to encourage the U.S. and Israel to reconsider their decision to quit.

In recent years, Israel has been infuriated by repeated resolutions that ignore and diminish its historical connection to the Holy Land and that have named ancient Jewish sites as Palestinian heritage sites.

The State Department couldn't comment because of the U.S. government shutdown. Earlier, the department told UNESCO officials the U.S. intends to stay engaged at UNESCO as a non-member "observer state" on "nonpoliticized" issues, including the protection of World Heritage sites, advocating for press freedoms and promoting scientific collaboration and education.

The U.S. could potentially seek that status during UNESCO Executive Board meetings in April.

Somali government expels top UN envoy for comments

By ABDI GULED
Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — Somalia's government has ordered the United Nations envoy to the country to leave amid questions over the arrest of the al-Shabab extremist group's former deputy leader who had run for a presidential presidency.

A Foreign Ministry statement late Tues-

commenting now, and Haysom did not immediately respond. Instead, Haysom and the spokesman for the U.N. secretary-general late Tuesday issued statements strongly condemning a mortar attack that hit the main U.N. compound in Mogadishu earlier in the day. Seven mortars landed inside the compound, leaving two U.N. staffers and a contractor with injuries, Haysom's statement said.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Fisherman reels in bale of suspected cocaine

FL ISLAMORADA — A Florida Keys fisherman reeled in an unusual catch: 40 to 60 pounds of white powder that authorities suspect is cocaine.

Monroe County Sheriff's Office spokesman Adam Linhardt said a plastic-wrapped bale washed up Saturday morning under a dock in Islamorada.

In an email Sunday, Linhardt said the fisherman spotted the bale and pulled it out of the water. The plastic wrapping was ripped, and when the fisherman cut into one corner, he found white powder inside.

The fisherman called the Coast Guard. Linhardt said the bale containing 25 smaller packages of powder was turned over to federal authorities.

Police: Arrested man had ear bitten off

NC SOUTHERN PINES — A North Carolina man whose ear was largely bitten off in an altercation was arrested.

News outlets cited a Southern Pines police news release that said officers responding to a hangup call found multiple people involved in a fight Friday at an apartment.

Police said Ronnell Tydel Wilson, 35, was in an agitated state, demanding officers shoot him. A large portion of his ear was found on the floor.

Four people, including Wilson, were hospitalized. Wilson is charged with two counts of assault on a female.

Famed diner to end overnight hours

PA PHILADELPHIA — One of Philadelphia's classic diners is ending its overnight shift, reflecting changes in the way people eat and socialize.

The Penrose Diner is now open from 6 a.m. to midnight. The eatery featured 24-hour service for the last 50 years.

An owner told The Philadelphia Inquirer that younger people drive less frequently when they go out to clubs, and don't want to take two trips on a car service late at night to stop for food.

Food delivery services also have cut into in-person traffic at diners, and convenience stores such as Walgreens offer late-night alternatives.

No jail time for man in wild deer sausage sting

LA CONVENT — A Louisiana man who authorities said was caught in an illegal deer sausage sting will avoid prison time.

The Advocate cited an arrest report that said Brandon J. Engman, 31, sold 10 pounds of wild deer sausage for \$60 to an undercover state Wildlife and Fisheries agent in March. He fled after the sale, crashing into an agent's car and leading authorities on a chase that reached 95 mph, authorities allege.

A search of his two homes yield-

THE CENSUS

200

The weight in pounds of what is unofficially the world's largest s'more, unveiled at a winter festival in Vermont. Red Hen Bakery in Middlesex presented the 4-by-8-foot treat at the Winter S'morestice at Camp Meade on Saturday. A team of 10 people helped carry graham crackers with a base layer of marshmallows on top, then the marshmallows were roasted with blowtorches and 60 pounds of homemade milk chocolate was drizzled on top. Organizers said they were too late in pursuing an official Guinness World Record title. The current record is 25 square feet. The s'more created Saturday measured 32 square feet.



DAVID MAIALETTI, THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER/AP

Strutting their stuff

Members of the Saints Wench Brigade strut in front of the judges at City Hall during the Mummers Parade on Tuesday in Philadelphia. The parade, believed to be the oldest folk parade in the U.S., is held in Philadelphia every New Year's Day.

ed 10 cleaned raccoon carcasses and packages of deer sausage, fish filets, shrimp and unknown meat.

Engman later told agents he bought the deer meat and raccoons from a Mississippi seller. He also acknowledged trying to sell blue crabs without a license.

Stolen car found with gifts still inside

MA DEDHAM — Police said they have recovered a family's stolen car with their Christmas gifts still inside in Massachusetts.

Lauren and William Ingram said they packed the car with their 4-year-old daughter's gifts Thursday when someone stole the vehicle as it was warming up in a driveway in Dedham.

The Ingrams said police called Saturday to report they found the car, and it appears the gifts were still inside.

Laura Ingram said good Samaritans donated money to an online fundraiser for the family and donated gifts for their daughter.

Cow gives birth after escaping cattle truck

NJ WANTAGE — A cow that escaped a truck bound for the slaughterhouse in New Jersey has given birth.

Skylands Animal Sanctuary and Rescue in Wantage Township said Brianna gave birth to a healthy female calf named Winter on Saturday.

Brianna fell from the second floor of a trailer near Paterson on Dec. 27 and led authorities on an hourlong chase along Interstate 80 before she was captured.

Both Brianna and calf will join another 70 cows at the sanctuary.

Reality TV may be next for moose scat crafter

ME SOMERVILLE — Lights, camera, scat.

That's the premise of a potential new reality series featuring a Maine woman who is locally famous for making creations out of moose droppings. The Portland Press Herald reported Mary

Winchenbach and her wife, Deb Nicholls, are in discussions with TNT about bringing their brand of poop art to cable television.

A spokeswoman for Turner, the company that owns TNT, confirmed Dec. 27 the cable network is discussing a show about the artists. Winchenbach is known in Maine as "the Moose Turd Lady," while Nicholls has remained a quiet partner in their business, Tirdy Works.

Passers-by, police rescue dog from water

NY WEST SAYVILLE — Police and passers-by have teamed up to rescue a dog that was clinging to floating debris in chilly water off Long Island.

Suffolk County police said the bound mix, Wilbur, wandered out of his West Sayville yard. Then passer-by Ary McCarthy spotted him struggling in the Great South Bay around 8:15 a.m. Saturday and called police.

While police were responding, McCarthy and onlooker Beth Higbie went into the roughly 41-de-

gree water to get Wilbur.

Officers Ryan McAdam and Dave Vervelli helped bring him to shore and wrap him in towels.

Wilbur was taken to an animal hospital and reunited with his owner.

Snail once found in 2 states presumed extinct

AR COTTER — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said a small snail native to Arkansas and Missouri is now presumed extinct.

The Ozark pyrg was originally found more than 100 years ago in the White River near Cotter and in the North Fork White River near Norfolk, Ark., extending into Missouri. But officials said the snail hasn't been confirmed in surveys since 1915.

The Fish and Wildlife Service said scientists believe construction of the Norfolk Dam and the Beaver Fork Dam in the 1940s likely played a role in the snail's demise.

From wire reports

FACES



FROM TO Dick Cheney

'Vice' director Adam McKay's arc not as odd as it seems

DAVID WALTER BANKS/The Washington Post

Adam McKay received a Golden Globe nomination for best director and best screenplay for "Vice."

By JEFF WEISS
Special to The Washington Post

Will (Ferrell) and I joke that we single-handedly ruined Paul Thomas Anderson's producing career before it started," Adam McKay says, casually playing his 6-foot-5 frame across the couch, as though in a weekly therapy session.

The original script for what became the comedy classic "Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy" was so deliciously absurd that Anderson, the auteur behind "Boogie Nights," "The Phantom Thread" and "Magnolia" — a movie that ends with a rain of frogs falling from the sky — threw up his hands and amicably bowed out of the agreement.

"He was, like, 'I don't know what to tell these guys, because I love this, but I know it won't work,'" McKay adds.

Of course, it did work — at least half a dozen lines from the movie are firmly entrenched in the greater American lexicon — and pretty much everything else has worked for McKay in the decade-plus since he brought Ron Burgundy into our lives.

As the market for mid-size-budget traditional studio comedies has dried up in favor of blockbuster properties and adaptations, McKay has quietly become a mogul in internet video, television and film. McKay's latest, the tragicomic Dick Cheney biopic "Vice," leads the Golden Globes pack with six nominations (including best picture, comedy), and McKay is nominated for best director and best screenplay.

He's one of the most powerful men in Hollywood, albeit so self-effacing that you could never imagine him saying that with a straight face. At the movie's mid-December premiere in L.A., all he could talk about with the A-list crowd was how proud he was of designing Amy Adams' dress. (He did not design Amy Adams' dress.)

It's an almost unrivaled come-uppance for the former head writer of "Saturday Night Live," whose first film was "Anchorman," a dadaist disco-era lampoon that convinced a generation that San Diego means a "whale's vagina" in German. A decade later, 2015's brilliant "The Big Short" altered his trajectory from go-to comedy guru into one of Hollywood's most astute chroniclers of corruption.

Inspired by Michael Lewis' book about the 2008 housing crash, the fourth-wall-obliterating parable of American greed netted five Oscar nominations and a win for best adapted screenplay. At 50, the card-carrying member of the Los Angeles chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America has not only become one of the industry's most sought-after commercial filmmakers, he's become an unlikely heir to '70s political satirist Hal Ashby — or the answer to the question, what if Mike Myers directed "All The President's Men?" For this, you can blame Public Enemy.

"When Public Enemy hit, it changed everything," McKay says. "Those songs stopped me from being a moron teenager and politicized me in a big way."

He's speaking nearly 30 summers after

'When Public Enemy hit, it changed everything. Those songs stopped me from being a moron teenager and politicized me in a big way.'

Adam McKay

director of the Dick Cheney biopic "Vice"

"Do the Right Thing" and its Public Enemy soundtrack sparked a political awakening in a generation of hip-hop fans. So maybe it's a poetic twist that his best-director competition at the Golden Globes includes Spike Lee for "BlacKkKlansman." With his gray hair and spectacles, worn T-shirt and loose-fitting olive pants, McKay looks more liberal-arts professor than Professor Griff. But hearing him talk hip-hop and politics affirms the carefully considered values of a longtime traveler.

In a National Review screed against "Vice," right-wing firebrand Ben Shapiro claimed that Hollywood's "leftist contempt" for conservatives led to President Donald Trump. He incorrectly attributes McKay's critiques to a hardened ideology, rather than a caustic fury that takes wide-

making aim at those who abuse power and the public trust.

"I believe in profit regulations, fair tax structure, clean air, clean water. These didn't use to be crazy things, but now I'm considered a 'democratic socialist,'" McKay says. "I remember people screaming at me when I was protesting the Iraq War, saying I was anti-American, anti-this. I wanted to call them up and go, 'OK, so that didn't work. So, what am I? Am I still a liberal?' I hate these tags you get whacked with. All I want to do is judge politicians and our government by their actions. Are they corrupt or not? Are they effective or not?"

The imminent crisis of global warming has begun to occupy more of his psychic space than any one adversarial politician — although there's that, too.

"The midterms left me hopeful, especially the fact that 15 percent more people voted," McKay says. "All I care about now is getting this guy out of there and us to an America that believes in and is working to fight global warming. What ties into 'Vice' is the need to get big money out of our democracy. It's responsible for so much — from the denial of global warming to oil companies doing whatever they want."

It's this recurring nihilistic streak within American life that haunts McKay. It's what ties him to Nixon-era filmmakers like Ashby, Sydney Pollack and Sidney Lumet, who tried to lance the boils that had crept into the nation's body politic. Like almost any worthwhile artist, there's a deep-seated empathy for his subjects that McKay can't shake. Even if his protagonists aren't necessarily likable, he's gifted at making them seem human — whether it's a lecherous Southern California newscaster or the Mr. Burns of real-life political memory.

"I learned that these are people with actual vulnerabilities, who I could actually identify with when they were young," McKay says. "Yes, there was some anger, but the biggest surprise for me was that I genuinely felt sad for (Cheney and his wife). Don't get me wrong. I'm not discounting the horrible things they did, the people who died, the torture. But I teared up at the first big screening. I couldn't believe it, but it was like a spiritual tragedy, not just for them, but for the entire country enduring this similar kind of loss."

Louis C.K. mocks Parkland students in recording of set

Associated Press

Audio has emerged of Louis C.K. apparently mocking the students-turned-activists from the Parkland, Fla., school shooting. A gunman killed 17 students and staff members at the school Feb. 14.

The recording was posted Sunday in a since-removed YouTube video that said it was from a Dec. 16 stand-up set at a Levittown, N.Y., comedy club. Several media outlets captured and posted clips and transcripts of the set.

"You're not interesting because you went to a high school where kids got shot," C.K. can be heard saying on the recording. "Why does that mean I have to listen to you? Why does that make you interesting? You didn't get shot, you pushed some fat kid in the way, and now I gotta listen to you talking?"

Parkland parent Fred Guttenberg replied to the C.K. material on Twitter.

"My daughter was killed in the Parkland shooting," Guttenberg said. "My son ran from the bullets. My wife and I dealt with loss every day. Why don't you come to my house and try out your new pathetic jokes?"

C.K., 51, temporarily disappeared from public life after acknowledging and apologizing for sexual misconduct in November of 2017. In August, he began making unannounced appearances, performing new material at East Coast comedy clubs.



CHRIS PIZZELLO, INVISION/AP

A sound-only recording of Louis C.K. was posted Sunday in a since-removed YouTube video.

Judge denies Spacey request

A Massachusetts judge denied Kevin Spacey's request to skip his appearance in court on accusations that he groped a young man.

The decision by Nantucket District Court Judge Thomas Barrett on Monday means Spacey will have to attend his Jan. 7 arraignment.

Spacey, 59, argued he should be excused because his presence would "amplify the negative publicity already generated in connection with this case." He's pleading not guilty.

The Oscar-winning actor is accused of groping the 18-year-old man in a Nantucket restaurant in 2016. He is charged with felony indecent assault and battery.

Other news

■ **Ricky Martin** is starting the new year with a new bundle of joy. The singer announced the arrival of his daughter with an Instagram post showing off the infant's tiny hands. Martin said the girl is named Lucia. Martin garnered an Emmy nomination in 2018 for his supporting role in the FX series "The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story."

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OPINION

Military not built for partisan conflict

By CHARLES LANE

The Washington Post

On the U.S. maintain its national security and governmental stability now that the defense secretary, Jim Mattis, has left office?

It's a good question, but here's a better one: What does it say about our political system's basic health that it was widely believed to depend on continued supervision of the military by a recently retired Marine Corps general — a general who could only serve as secretary in the first place because Congress waived provisions of a 1947 law called the National Security Act?

Clearly the lines of warmaking authority between the legislative and executive branches, and between the soldier and the state, have not quite developed as the Founding Fathers envisioned. The tangle began long before President Donald Trump and seems likely to get worse before it gets better.

Per the Constitution, Congress has the power to declare war, fund the armed forces and establish the rules under which the military will operate. The president is commander in chief and the primary authority in day-to-day diplomacy. This division of labor worked imperfectly in practice, even in the early Republic, but there was always clarity about the rules — the rule of law and civilian control of the military.

The rise of the United States internationally in the 20th century shifted power from Congress to the president and, through him, to the uniformed officer corps. After Vietnam, Congress added statutory restraints via the War Powers Act of 1973, but those have proved relatively feeble. Presidents George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush sought and gained congressional approval

for Mideast wars — while denying that they actually needed it. In 1999, President Bill Clinton kept U.S. warplanes in action over the Balkans even after an authorization vote failed in the Republican-controlled House. President Barack Obama sent U.S. troops to fight Islamic State in Syria based on a creative interpretation of the authority Congress had granted George W. Bush to fight al-Qaida in Afghanistan (and elsewhere) in September 2001.

That quibble check remains on the books, despite occasional attempts by various lawmakers to update — i.e., limit — it.

Ironically, it was the failure of legislative efforts to curb presidential discretion in the nearly 18-year-old war on terrorism that left Congress relying on Mattis to stand between the troops and the worst tendencies of a new, out-of-the-mainstream president with no governmental experience. Lawmakers wanted the general as de facto co-president for military affairs so badly that they exempted him from the National Security Act's ban on former officers serving as defense secretary until they have been retired for at least seven years.

The expectation was that Mattis might clash with Trump over the latter's impulsivity about starting wars; no one imagined his resignation on principle would come because Trump tried to bring forces home — "Let's go home" — and war was not.

Trump's critics on Capitol Hill seem so flummoxed by his pullout order that they've forgotten Congress could declare war on ISIS in Syria tomorrow and dare Trump to resist. You don't have to think Trump made the correct decision about Syria, in the corridor, in the White House, or in the field, and every right to make it, or to wonder which is the sordid symptom of political decay: the fact that a president defied his generals' ad-

vise, or that so much hinged on the assumption that he wouldn't?

Fears about Trump's potential recklessness absent Mattis' experienced guidance are hardly invalid. Equally valid are protests against his crude use of U.S. troops in Iraq as a backdrop for his latest political rant against the Democrats.

On the latter point, however, Trump was only ratcheting up a long-standing bipartisan tension toward political exploitation of the military. Yes, retired Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn led chants of "lock her up" at the Republican National Convention in 2016. But at the Democratic convention, another recently retired four-star Marine general, John Allen, announced that "Hillary Clinton will be exactly, exactly the kind of commander in chief America needs. I know this because I served with her."

Politicians use the troops and, in many of 2018's congressional races, soldiers became politicians, because almost alone among U.S. institutions, the armed forces enjoy the public's trust; 74 percent of those surveyed by Gallup in 2016 said they trusted the military compared with 11 percent for Congress. Admiration for the military is, in part, a vestige of the armed forces' avoidance of partisan politics in recent decades. Military nonpartisanship, in turn, reflected the prevailing postwar centrist consensus, which in turn reflected the enormous accumulated vast resources and influence.

This behemoth was not constructed for a nation where partisanship has grown so strong that it can overpower even the strongest personal ethos or institutional norm. Yet that is the kind of nation we are becoming.

Charles Lane is a Washington Post editorial writer specializing in economic and fiscal policy, and a weekly columnist.

Trump alone with his thoughts before a crucial year

By MARTIN SCHRAM

Tribune News Service

In the days before Christmas 2018, President Donald Trump was alone in his home office at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Someday, future historians will picture Trump sitting at his desk and perhaps commiserate if he felt those oval walls of his famous office were closing in on him.

After all, the president's best intelligence sources — his TV and phone screens — were bombarding him with predictions that 2019 could be a very bad Trump year. Talking heads and pretentious print pundits were observing that special counsel Robert Mueller's presidential probe was in its final stage — maybe even final weeks. Waunne impishers in Congress were soon be reading Mueller's conclusions, which may or may not involve his crimes or misdemeanors arising from original actions or coverup offenses. Or maybe not — if Trump's Justice Department somehow covers up Mueller's conclusions.

Every day, Twitter and Fox will dominate Trump's new year. No wonder Trump has been doing his damndest to divert America's attention by creating controversies about anything else, anywhere else. But that really hasn't worked very well.

Finally, in the predawn morning that would become Christmas Eve, Trump reached for his Twitter and began lashing back. Beginning at 6:31 a.m., Trump launched a Twitter eruption that touched all his usual non-Mueller bases: Mexican wall, government shutdown, Fed follies, Iran nuclear pact, "Little Bob Corker" and "necessary Trade Wars."

Reading his Twitter outburst, you can sense Trump's growing feeling of victim-

ization, as, at 9:32 a.m., he began his 10th and final tweet.

"I'm alone," pecked America's real president, whose Twitter handle is @realDonaldTrump. "I am all alone (poor me) in the White House."

Indeed, he was. It wasn't just that his wife and youngest son were in Florida. Generally speaking, Trump had just run out of generals. For two years, he'd been so proud to display, for all to see, his generals — they were the authenticators of his legitimacy — that he'd let them all go. He'd fired, lied and was fired; Gen. H.R. McMaster, so damned sure of himself, was forced out too. Four-star Gen. John Kelly assumed a chief of staff should command and control the staff; Trump belittled him into departing at December's end.

We still counted on four-star retired Marine Gen. and Secretary of Defense Jim "Mad Dog" Mattis — to prevent Trump from acting on his worst impulses. Until this holiday season. On Dec. 20, Trump was sitting at his Oval Office desk talking on the phone with Turkey's turgid President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who told Trump to withdraw all 2,000 U.S. troops from Syria, claiming Islamic State was defeated. Even Erdogan must have been shocked when Trump reportedly blurted: "You know what? It's yours. I'm leaving (Syria)." With no analysis of unintended consequences, Trump gifted Russia and Iran to whomever all 2,000 U.S. troops from Syria, claiming Islamic State was defeated. Even Erdogan must have been shocked when Trump reportedly blurted: "You know what? It's yours. I'm leaving (Syria)." With no analysis of unintended consequences, Trump gifted Russia and Iran to whomever all 2,000 U.S. troops from Syria, claiming Islamic State was defeated. 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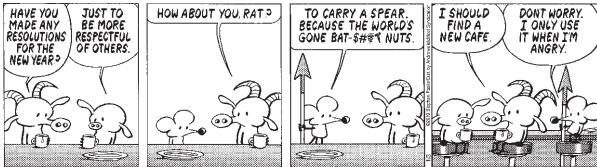
Frazz



Dilbert



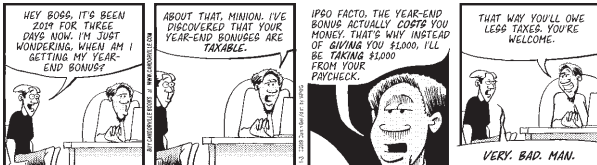
Pearls Before Swine



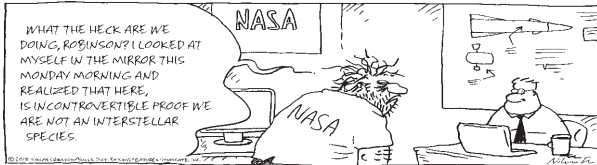
Non Sequitur



Candorville



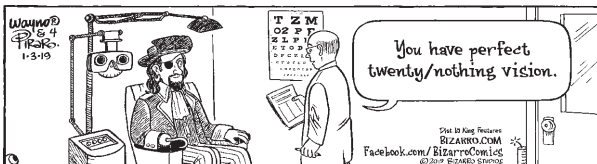
Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12					13				14				
15					16				17				
18					19			20	21				
				22			23				24	25	
26	27	28					29			30			
31					32				33				
34				35				36					
37				38				39					
			40					41			42	43	44
45	46					47	48		49				
50						51			52				
53						54			55				

ACROSS

- 1 Wordsworth work
- 5 Spasm
- 8 Billie — King
- 12 Against
- 13 Granada gold
- 14 Sea eagle
- 15 5000 sheets
- 16 Chess piece
- 17 Right on the map?
- 18 On an angle
- 20 Dines
- 22 Donald Duck's outfit
- 26 Birth-related
- 29 "Exodus" hero
- 30 Vitamin stat
- 31 Prior nights
- 32 Pvt.'s superior
- 33 Grant basis, at times
- 34 Seminary subj.
- 35 Take to court
- 36 Smartens (up)
- 37 Produce aisle display
- 40 Pan handler?
- 41 Rookie
- 45 Boyfriend
- 47 Business mag
- 49 Press
- 50 Formerly, once
- 51 French vineyard
- 52 Bandleader

DOWN

- 1 Law firm aide, for short
- 2 Till bills
- 3 List-ending abbr.
- 4 Brunch cocktails
- 5 "Only Love" actress
- 6 Lyricist Gershwin
- 7 Monarch's spouse
- 8 Army vehicles
- 9 Test-paper smudges
- 10 Reply (Abbr.)
- 11 Court divider
- 15 Makes lace
- 16 "Dig in!"
- 17 Salty septet
- 19 Chum
- 21 Swiss canton
- 23 Beer type
- 24 Nantes notion
- 25 Tiny amounts
- 26 Soft ball?
- 27 Say it's so
- 28 Put on the air
- 32 Be enough
- 33 Blockheads
- 35 That lady
- 36 Golfer Michelle
- 38 Closes
- 39 Full-length
- 42 Party cheese
- 43 Greek vowel
- 44 Seth's son
- 45 Wager
- 46 Historic period
- 48 Big D.C. lobby

Answer to Previous Puzzle

G	A	P		C	E	L
S	E	L	L	E	L	L
A	P	N	E	A	G	A
M	E	R	C	U	R	I
A	W	E		D	U	P
			M	I	N	T
			S	A	U	T
L	A	R	D	S	A	I
I	N	E		A	S	T
V	E	N	U	S	W	L
R	A	C	H	E	L	I
			S	L	E	P
			A	N	T	
						E

1-3

CRYPTOQUIP

PJD BWOI BWD PJ DROT KWA, H
BDWAXRW ROTG BOHN ABJDVA
BUOGWDA KJXUN VOIW

BDJ-VWOR AXBBUWRWTVA.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A MALE MORAY OR CONGER WERE HIGHLY REFINED AND MANNERLY, WHAT WOULD YOU CALL IT? GENT EEL.


Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals P

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- Ads may contain up to 32 words. All Ads must contain price and contact information. No websites will be accepted in Free ads.
- Stars and Stripes reserves the right to re-classify, rewrite and reject any ads.

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Announcements 040

SCAM FADS

Classifieds scams can target both sellers and buyers with classifieds advertisements.

Be aware of the common red flags.

Some of the latest Scam fads are:

- ❑ Vehicle buyers wanting to buy sight unseen and have the vehicle shipped through an agent using paypal.
- ❑ People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

Automotive 140

SELLER BEWARE

Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are reputable or honest. Stars and Stripes suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. Stars and Stripes is not liable for the contractual relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

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College hockey

Tuesday's sports exhibition
U.S. Under-18, Holy Cross 3

Monday's scores

EAST
Colorado College 5, Merrimack 1
Lake Superior St. 6, Michigan Tech 3
Omaha 4, Alaska Anchorage 0
Michigan 2, Michigan St. 2, OT
Notre Dame 4, Boston College 0

AP spotlight

Jan. 3
1920 — Boston Red Sox owner Harry Frazee — pitched right-outfielder Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees for \$125,000 and a \$350,000 loan.
1925 — The United States of the Montreal Maroons scores two goals four seconds apart in the third period of a 5-3 victory over the Boston Bruins.
1973 — A 12-member group headed by George Gairbreath and Bob Wynn of Yankee from the Columbia Broadcasting System for \$10 million.
1991 — Wayne Gretzky scores three goals, including his 700th, as the Los Angeles Kings beat the New York Islanders 6-3.

Tennis

Qatar Open
Tuesday
At The Khalifa International Tennis & Squash Complex
Doha, Qatar
Purse: \$15 million (WT250)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Ricardo Beranes, Lithuania, def. David Goffin (6), France, 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (4).
Guido Pella, Argentina, def. Cem Ilkhan, Turkey, (1), 6-3, 6-4.
Miguel Angel Lopez-Janeiro, Spain, def. Adrian Panatta, Italy, 6-3, 6-4.
Stan Wawrinka, Switzerland, def. Karen Karlovic, Croatia, 6-3, 6-4.
Guillermo Garcia-Lopez, Spain, def. Mubarak Shaban Yaqut, Qatar, 6-1, 6-3.
Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, def. Adrian Panatta, France, 6-3, 7-6 (5).
Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, def. Damiir Dzumhur, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 6-1, 6-2.
Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, def. Marius Copil, Romania, 6-3, 6-2.
Pierre-Hugues Herbert, France, def. Dominik Thiem (2), Austria, 6-3, 7-6 (3).

Maharashtra Open
Tuesday
At Mahalunge Balewadi Tennis Complex
Pune, India
Purse: \$501,545 (WT250)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Ilya Karlovic, Croatia, def. Felix Auger-Aliassime, Canada, 6-4, 7-5.
Simone Bolelli, Italy, def. Denis Istomin, Uzbekistan, 6-7 (6), 6-3, 6-4.
Ilya Karlovic, Croatia, def. Hubert Hurkacz, Poland, 6-7 (6), 6-3, 6-4.
Benot Pella (5), France, def. Saketh Myneni, India, 6-3, 6-4.
Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, def. Antoine Hardouin, France, 6-4, 6-4.
Ramilnar Ramnath, India, def. Marcel Granollers, Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-3.
Laslo Djere, Serbia, def. Arjun Kadhe, India, 7-5, 7-6 (6).

Brisbane International
Tuesday
At Queensland Tennis Centre
Brisbane, Australia
Purse: \$M, \$501,545 (WT250)
Women, \$1 million (Premier)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Denis Kudla, United States, def. Fritz, United States, 7-6 (5), 6-2, 6-4.
Andy Murray, Britain, def. James Duckworth, Britain, 6-3, 6-4.
Jeremy Chardy, France, def. Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.
Nick Kyrgios (8), Australia, def. Ryan Harrison, United States, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.
Laslo Djere, Serbia, def. Arjun Kadhe, India, 7-5, 7-6 (6).

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Laslo Djere, Serbia, def. Arjun Kadhe, India, 7-5, 7-6 (6).

College football

Bowl results and schedule

Monday, Dec. 31
Military Bowl
Cincinnati 31, Sun Bowl 31
El Paso, Texas
Stanford 14, Pittsburgh 13
Redbox Bowl
Oregon 7, Michigan State 35
Santa Clara, Calif.
Oklahoma State 38, Missouri 33
Holiday Bowl
San Diego
Northwestern 31, Utah 20
Rator Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.
Texas A&M 32, NC State 13
Tuesday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
Iowa 27, Mississippi State 22
Altrius Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Kentucky 27, Penn State 24
Fiesta Bowl
Tampa, Fla.
LSU 40, UCF 37
Rose Bowl
Pasadena, Calif.
Ohio State 28, Washington 23
Sugar Bowl
New Orleans
Texas 28, Georgia 21
Monday, Jan. 7
College Football Championship
Santa Clara, Calif.
East-West Shrine Classic
San Antonio, Texas
East vs. West
NFLPA Collegiate Bowl
Albuquerque, N.M.
American vs. National

FCS playoffs

Championship
Saturday, Jan. 5
AT Toyota Stadium
Frisco, Texas
North Dakota State (14-0) vs. Eastern Washington (12-2)

Women

First Round
Johanna Konta, Britain, def. Sloane Stephens, U.S., 6-3, 6-4.
Alia Tomljanovic, Australia, def. Katrina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 1-6, 6-3.
Anastasiya Sevastova (8), Latvia, def. Daria Gavrilova, Russia, 6-3, 6-4.
Petra Kvitova (4), Czech Republic, def. Danielle Collins, United States, 6-7 (6), 7-6 (6), 6-3.
Anastasiya Sasnovich, Belarus, def. Anastasia Potapova, Russia, 6-4, 7-5.
Second Round
Naomi Osaka (2), Japan, def. Daria Gavrilova, Russia, 6-3, 6-4.
Lesia Tsurenko, Ukraine, def. Kimberly Birrell, Australia, 6-3, 6-4.

Auckland Open

Tuesday
At ASB Bank Tennis Centre
Auckland, New Zealand
Purse: \$226,150 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Sofia Kenin, United States, def. Petra Martic (4), Croatia, 7-5, 6-2, 6-3.
Kristina Flipsken (7), Belgium, def. Sachia Vickery, United States, 6-2, 6-2.
Barbora Strýcová (9), Czech Republic, def. Taylor Townsend, United States, 6-2, 6-3.
Hsieh Su-wei (3), Taiwan, def. Polona Herczeg, Hungary, 6-3, 6-3.
Bianka Schoofs, Netherlands, def. Alison Van Uytendaele (8), Belgium, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Julia Goerges (2), Germany, def. Johanna Konta, Britain, 6-3, 6-4.
Mona Barthel, Germany, def. Silvia Soler-Espinoza, Spain, 6-2, 7-6 (1).
Victoria Azarenka, Belarus, 6-3, 1-6, 6-3.
Amanda Anisimova, United States, def. Jana Cepelova, Slovakia, 6-2, 3-0, retired.
Bianca Andreescu, Canada, def. Timea Babos, Hungary, 6-4, 7-6 (6).

Shenzhen Open

Tuesday
At Longgang Tennis Centre
Shenzhen, China
Purse: \$750,000 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Kristina Flipsken (7), Belgium, def. Peng Shuai, China, 3-6, 7-6 (6), 3-0, retired.
Mona Barthel, Germany, def. Silvia Soler-Espinoza (4), Latvia, 5-6, 6-2.
Yvonne Zvonareva, Russia, def. Ivana Jovic, Serbia, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.
Sorana Cristea, Romania, def. Pauline Parmentier, France, 6-3, 6-4.
Alison Riske, United States, def. Evgeniya Rodina, Russia, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3.
Veronika Kudermetova, Russia, def. Anastasiya Pavlyuchenkova (8), Russia, 6-1, 6-2.

College basketball

AP Men's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, released through Dec. 30, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Duke (35)	11-1	1,530	1
2. Michigan (9)	13-0	1,478	2
3. Tennessee (12)	13-0	1,478	3
4. Virginia (4)	10-1	1,428	4
5. Kansas (4)	13-0	1,428	5
6. Nevada (7)	13-0	1,317	6
7. Michigan State (1)	12-1	1,288	7
8. Maryland (1)	12-1	1,146	8
9. Florida St.	11-1	1,063	9
10. Virginia Tech	12-1	934	10
11. Texas Tech	11-1	893	11
12. Wisconsin	11-1	850	12
13. Kentucky	10-2	799	13
14. Ohio St.	10-2	620	14
15. North Carolina	9-3	744	15
16. Marquette	12-1	595	16
17. Mississippi St.	12-1	572	17
18. NC State	12-1	424	18
19. Houston	10-2	368	19
20. Buffalo	12-1	353	20
21. Indiana	12-1	330	21
22. Wisconsin	11-1	250	19
23. Oklahoma	11-1	244	25
24. Nebraska	11-1	204	24
25. Iowa	12-1	182	24

Other receiving votes:

116, Kansas St. 61, Villanova 43, Seton Hall 24, TCU 20, Cincinnati 14, Iowa St. 10, Florida 6, Purdue 5, Colorado 5, Louisville 3, St. John's 1, North Texas 1.

USA Today Men's Top 25

The top 25 teams in the USA Today men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, released through Dec. 30, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Duke (10)	11-1	759	2
2. Michigan (1)	11-1	759	2
3. Tennessee (7)	11-1	734	3
4. Michigan (4)	11-1	729	4
5. Nevada (4)	13-0	655	6
6. Kansas (4)	11-1	643	5
7. Michigan State (1)	12-1	623	7
8. Gonzaga (2)	12-2	577	8
9. Florida State	12-1	518	9
10. Virginia Tech	11-1	490	10
11. Texas Tech	11-1	442	13
12. Ohio State	11-1	413	11
13. Auburn	11-1	403	14
14. North Carolina	11-1	399	15
15. North Carolina	9-3	374	14
16. Mississippi St.	12-1	233	16
17. Marquette	12-1	221	20
18. Davidson	12-1	219	17
19. Buffalo	12-1	214	22
20. Iowa	12-1	212	25
21. Indiana	12-1	128	25
22. Nebraska	11-1	127	23
23. Wisconsin	11-1	126	24
24. Oklahoma	11-1	96	24
25. Kansas	11-1	96	24

Other receiving votes:

71, Villanova 37, Cincinnati 34, TCU 27, South Alabama 16, Iowa State 16, Indiana 16, North Carolina 16, UCF 9, Purdue 7, Furman 5, Texas State 3, St. John's 1, Toledo 1.

Thursday's games

No. 2 Michigan vs. Penn State
No. 10 Virginia Tech vs. Wake Forest
No. 21 Indiana vs. Illinois
No. 22 Wisconsin vs. Minnesota
No. 23 Iowa vs. Purdue
Friday's game
No. 20 Buffalo at Eastern Michigan

AP Women's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, released through Dec. 30, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. UConn (31)	11-0	775	1
2. Notre Dame	12-1	741	2
3. Tennessee (1)	11-1	713	3
4. Maryland	12-0	645	4
5. Texas	12-0	642	5
6. Stanford	11-0	622	6
7. Mississippi St.	12-1	586	7
8. Baylor	11-0	584	8
9. NC State	13-0	527	9
10. Tennessee	11-0	527	10
11. Oregon St.	12-0	452	11
12. Minnesota	12-0	427	12
13. Texas	12-0	402	13
14. Syracuse	11-1	369	15
15. Michigan St.	12-1	364	14
16. Kentucky	13-1	295	18
17. Gonzaga	11-0	288	17
18. California	9-2	201	14
19. Iowa	9-3	185	16
20. Marquette	13-0	183	22
21. Texas A&M	11-2	173	23
22. Arizona St.	9-3	17	17
23. South Carolina	8-4	76	25
24. DePaul	10-4	72	19
25. Iowa St.	10-1	66	20

Other receiving votes:

59, Florida St. 19, Michigan 19, Missouri 19, Arizona 15, Indiana 11, South Dakota 7, Auburn 4, Cent. Michigan 1, South Dakota 1.

USA Today Women's Top 25

The top 25 teams in the USA Today women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, released through Dec. 30, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. UConn (31)	11-0	775	1
2. Notre Dame	12-1	741	2
3. Tennessee (1)	11-1	713	3
4. Maryland	12-0	645	4
5. Oregon	11-1	646	5
6. Mississippi State	12-1	586	6
7. Baylor	11-0	584	7
8. NC State	13-0	527	8
9. Tennessee	11-0	527	9
10. Oregon St.	12-0	452	10
11. Texas	12-0	402	11
12. Texas	12-0	402	11
13. California	11-1	369	15
14. Syracuse	11-2	367	14
15. Michigan St.	12-1	364	14
16. Marquette	12-1	295	18
17. Michigan State	11-1	249	22
18. Southern Cal.	11-1	249	22
19. California	9-2	210	13
20. Iowa	9-3	185	16
21. Texas A&M	11-2	173	23
22. Arizona State	9-3	116	18
23. Florida State	9-3	81	20
24. DePaul	10-4	72	19
25. Iowa St.	10-1	66	20

Other receiving votes:

59, Florida St. 19, Michigan 19, Missouri 19, Arizona 15, Indiana 11, South Dakota 7, Auburn 4, Cent. Michigan 1, South Dakota 1.

Tuesday's women's scores

EAST
George Washington 51, Memphis 38
Emory 68, Marquette (Tenn.) 52

Monday's women's scores

EAST
Butler 59, Georgetown 50
Cornell 58, St. Bonaventure 44
Dartmouth 63, Binghamton 58
Lincoln (Pa.) 100, Wilmington (Del.) 65
North Carolina 73, UNC Asheville 59
Navy 49, Saint Joseph's 48
Niagara 74, Colgate 69

SOUTH

Bellarmine 110, Greenville St. 96
Clayton St. 81, Lincoln Memorial 69
George Mason 66, Cal of Charleston 52
Purdue 75, Seton Hall 53
Rutgers 73, Maryland 65
Tulane (La.) 52, Kentucky 48
VCU 97, Delaware 55

MIDWEST

DePaul 88, Providence 62
Idaho St. 63, E. Washington 48
Indiana 85, Penn St. 75
Kent St. 52, Clarion 38
Marquette 85, Creighton 67
Michigan 76, Minnesota 60
N. Colorado 79, Portland St. 63
Ohio 63, Ohio St. 63
Nebraska 76, Ohio St. 69

WEST

San Francisco 75, Illinois 45
Pacific 76, Saint Mary's (Cal.) 67
Valparaiso 85, Indiana-Northwest 59
Washington 75, Santa Clara Valley 51
Wisconsin 76, Purdue 69

Other receiving votes:

Baylor 88, Texas Rio Grande Valley 57, San Jose State 57, Gonz. Agassiz 56, Texas St. 89, Texas A&M International 25

FAREWELL

BYU 67, San Francisco 75, Gonzaga 79, Pepperdine 54
San Diego 79, St. Mary's 75
Loyola Marymount 76, Portland 58
Montana 79, St. Mary's 75
San Diego 79, St. Mary's 75
San Diego 79, Santa Clara 67
UC Riverside 79, St. Mary's 75

Deals

Tuesday's transactions

FOOTBALL

National Football League
CHICAGO — Released QB Tyler Bray to the practice squad. Released OL Willie Beavers from the practice squad.
CINCINNATI — Signed QB K. Tristan Vizcaino to a reserve/future contract.

DETROIT LIONS

— Signed QB Connor Cook to a reserve/future contract. Announced the arrival of offensive coordinator Jim Bob Cooter's contract.
CINCINNATI — Signed RB Derrick Burgess, C Connor Hill, S Chris Lamm, DT Jamilus Pittman, LB Quentin Pollock, DE Jeremiah Valasek to reserve/future contracts.

CAROLINA RAIDERS

— Signed WR Saed Blacknall, RB James Butler, LB Cayson Collins, LB James Cowser, P Richard Dwyer, DE Markdon Doreau, P Drew Kaser, OT Jamar McGloster, QB Nathan Peterman and RB Ryan Yurkchek to reserve/future contracts.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

ARIZONA COYOTES — Assigned G Calvin Pickard to Tucson AHL for conditioning purposes.
CAROLINA HURRICANES — Recalled F Saku Maenalanen from Charlotte (AHL). Reassigned F Janne Kuokkanen to Charlotte.

NEW JERSEY DEVILS

— Placed F Taylor Hall on injured reserve. Reassigned D New Jersey Devils to Hartford (AHL). Recalled D Egor Yakovlev and F Blake Pitello from Birmingham (AHL).

Monday's transactions

NATIONAL H

SPORTS BRIEFS/NHL

Briefly

Source: Tulowitzki headed to Yankees

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Yankees have obtained a low-cost infield replacement, agreeing to a one-year contract with shortstop Troy Tulowitzki for the major league minimum \$555,000, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity Wednesday because the agreement, first reported by ESPN, is subject to a successful physical.

Tulowitzki idolized retired Yankees captain Derek Jeter and has worn No. 2 in his honor. A five-time All-Star who turned 34 in October, Tulowitzki has not played in the major leagues since July 2017 and was released by the Toronto Blue Jays last month. He was limited to 66 games in 2017 because of a hamstring and right ankle injury. The ankle required surgery last spring and he missed the entire season.

Yankees shortstop Didi Gregorius had Tommy John surgery on his right elbow on Oct. 17 and is not expected to return until summer. New York also has been talking with Manny Machado, one of the top available free agents. Tulowitzki could slot in at shortstop, replacing Gleyber Torres to remain at second base and Miguel Andujar to stay at third.

Tulowitzki was taken by Colorado with the seventh overall pick in the 2005 amateur draft, became a star with the Rockies and agreed after the 2010 season to a \$157.5 million, 10-year contract that added \$12 million over seven seasons. Colorado dealt him in July 2015 to Toronto in a deal that brought shortstop Jose Reyes to the Rockies.

In other baseball news:

■ The Toronto Blue Jays acquired left-handed pitcher Clayton Richard and cash considerations from the San Diego Padres on Sunday for Canadian outfielder Connor Panos.

The 35-year-old Richard was 7-11 with a 5.33 earned-run average in 27 starts for San Diego last season. He is 68-79 with a 4.46 ERA in 10 seasons in the majors with the Padres and Chicago White Sox and Cubs, with a National League-best 60.3 ground-ball percentage over the last four years.

Vihova beats Shiffrin, wins parallel slalom

OSLO, Norway — Petra Vihova of Slovakia beat overall World Cup leader Mikaela Shiffrin in both runs of the final to win a parallel slalom city event Tuesday.

In the men's race, Austria's Marco Schwarz claimed the first World Cup victory of his career when British opponent Dave Ryding missed a gate.

Ryding was attempting to become the first British skier — man or woman — in the history

of the 51-year-old World Cup to win a race.

He eliminated overall World Cup leader Marcel Hirscher in the quarterfinals when Hirscher straddled a gate as he attempted to erase a first-run deficit.

Valhova's victory was the sixth of her career.

She and Schwarz, both 23, each won gold medals at the 2012 Youth Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria.

Ex-USC assistant Bland expected to plead guilty

NEW YORK — Former University of Southern California assistant basketball coach Tony Bland is expected to plead guilty in a criminal case in which prosecutors said bribes were paid to steer top athletes to certain schools.

Bland's lawyer, Jeffrey Lichtman, says Bland is set to enter the plea to a single conspiracy count on Wednesday in Manhattan federal court.

Bland was among four assistant coaches charged in the September 2017 crackdown on college basketball recruiting corruption.

Prosecutors say the coaches teamed up with a top Adidas executive and others to trade hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes to influence star athletes' choice of schools, shoe sponsors, agents and even tailors.

Bland was scheduled to go to trial in April.

Ovechkin to skip NHL All-Star Game

WASHINGTON — Alex Ovechkin will skip the All-Star Weekend in San Jose to get some extra rest and serve an automatic one-game suspension.

The Washington Capitals announced Ovechkin's decision Wednesday. The team said the NHL's leading goal-scorer wants to take advantage of the adjoining bye week to prepare for the second half of the season.

"My body needs a rest," Ovechkin said after practice on Wednesday. The 33-year-old has played in all 33 games this season and leads the Capitals with 45 points.

Washington's final game will be the All-Star break is Jan. 23 at Toronto. The All-Star game is Jan. 26 and the Capitals don't play again until Feb. 6.

Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly confirmed Ovechkin will miss either the game before or after the All-Star break. The NHL recently instituted an automatic one-game suspension for players who chose not to participate in All-Star Weekend, except in cases of injury.

Fans voted Ovechkin, the reigning playoff MVP, as the captain of the Metropolitan Division All-Star team. It's not clear who would take over the spot, though the NHL's hockey operations department chooses the remaining All-Stars.



N.M.Y. HUN/AP

Boston Bruins center Danton Heinen, left, controls the puck past Chicago Blackhawks defenseman Duncan Keith on Tuesday during the third period of the NHL Winter Classic at Notre Dame Stadium in South Bend, Ind. The Bruins won 4-2.

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference							Tuesday		
Atlantic Division							Bruins 4, Blackhawks 2		
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Boston		
Tampa Bay	40	31	7	2	64	168	1 1 2-1		
Toronto	40	26	11	2	54	144	1 1 2-1		
Boston	40	22	14	4	48	114	First Period—1, Chicago, Perlin 5-1 (11:24); 2-0, Boston, Pasternak 2-1 (Bergeron), 12:38 (pp).		
Buffalo	40	21	13	6	48	115	Second Period—3, Chicago, Kahun 3-0 (11:44); 4-0, Boston, Kuraly 4-0 (12:44); 5-0, Boston, Wagner 5-0 (12:44); 6-0, Boston, Wagner 6-0 (12:44); 7-0, Boston, Wagner 7-0 (12:44); 8-0, Boston, Wagner 8-0 (12:44); 9-0, Boston, Wagner 9-0 (12:44); 10-0, Boston, Wagner 10-0 (12:44); 11-0, Boston, Wagner 11-0 (12:44); 12-0, Boston, Wagner 12-0 (12:44); 13-0, Boston, Wagner 13-0 (12:44); 14-0, Boston, Wagner 14-0 (12:44); 15-0, Boston, Wagner 15-0 (12:44); 16-0, Boston, Wagner 16-0 (12:44); 17-0, Boston, Wagner 17-0 (12:44); 18-0, Boston, Wagner 18-0 (12:44); 19-0, Boston, Wagner 19-0 (12:44); 20-0, Boston, Wagner 20-0 (12:44); 21-0, Boston, Wagner 21-0 (12:44); 22-0, Boston, Wagner 22-0 (12:44); 23-0, Boston, Wagner 23-0 (12:44); 24-0, Boston, Wagner 24-0 (12:44); 25-0, Boston, Wagner 25-0 (12:44); 26-0, Boston, Wagner 26-0 (12:44); 27-0, Boston, Wagner 27-0 (12:44); 28-0, Boston, Wagner 28-0 (12:44); 29-0, Boston, Wagner 29-0 (12:44); 30-0, Boston, Wagner 30-0 (12:44); 31-0, Boston, Wagner 31-0 (12:44); 32-0, Boston, Wagner 32-0 (12:44); 33-0, Boston, Wagner 33-0 (12:44); 34-0, Boston, Wagner 34-0 (12:44); 35-0, Boston, Wagner 35-0 (12:44); 36-0, Boston, Wagner 36-0 (12:44); 37-0, Boston, Wagner 37-0 (12:44); 38-0, Boston, Wagner 38-0 (12:44); 39-0, Boston, Wagner 39-0 (12:44); 40-0, Boston, Wagner 40-0 (12:44).		
Florida	40	21	13	6	48	115	Shots on Goal—Boston 14-10 12-36		
Montreal	40	21	14	5	47	128	Goals—Johnston, 12:01 (12:44); 13-0, Boston, Wagner 13-0 (12:44); 14-0, Boston, Wagner 14-0 (12:44); 15-0, Boston, Wagner 15-0 (12:44); 16-0, Boston, Wagner 16-0 (12:44); 17-0, Boston, Wagner 17-0 (12:44); 18-0, Boston, Wagner 18-0 (12:44); 19-0, Boston, Wagner 19-0 (12:44); 20-0, Boston, Wagner 20-0 (12:44); 21-0, Boston, Wagner 21-0 (12:44); 22-0, Boston, Wagner 22-0 (12:44); 23-0, Boston, Wagner 23-0 (12:44); 24-0, Boston, Wagner 24-0 (12:44); 25-0, Boston, Wagner 25-0 (12:44); 26-0, Boston, Wagner 26-0 (12:44); 27-0, Boston, Wagner 27-0 (12:44); 28-0, Boston, Wagner 28-0 (12:44); 29-0, Boston, Wagner 29-0 (12:44); 30-0, Boston, Wagner 30-0 (12:44); 31-0, Boston, Wagner 31-0 (12:44); 32-0, Boston, Wagner 32-0 (12:44); 33-0, Boston, Wagner 33-0 (12:44); 34-0, Boston, Wagner 34-0 (12:44); 35-0, Boston, Wagner 35-0 (12:44); 36-0, Boston, Wagner 36-0 (12:44); 37-0, Boston, Wagner 37-0 (12:44); 38-0, Boston, Wagner 38-0 (12:44); 39-0, Boston, Wagner 39-0 (12:44); 40-0, Boston, Wagner 40-0 (12:44).		
Detroit	38	17	15	6	40	124	Power-play opportunities—Boston 10-10 5-6 Chicago of 4.		
Ottawa	40	17	14	4	34	129	Goals—Johnston, 12:01 (12:44); 13-0, Boston, Wagner 13-0 (12:44); 14-0, Boston, Wagner 14-0 (12:44); 15-0, Boston, Wagner 15-0 (12:44); 16-0, Boston, Wagner 16-0 (12:44); 17-0, Boston, Wagner 17-0 (12:44); 18-0, Boston, Wagner 18-0 (12:44); 19-0, Boston, Wagner 19-0 (12:44); 20-0, Boston, Wagner 20-0 (12:44); 21-0, Boston, Wagner 21-0 (12:44); 22-0, Boston, Wagner 22-0 (12:44); 23-0, Boston, Wagner 23-0 (12:44); 24-0, Boston, Wagner 24-0 (12:44); 25-0, Boston, Wagner 25-0 (12:44); 26-0, Boston, Wagner 26-0 (12:44); 27-0, Boston, Wagner 27-0 (12:44); 28-0, Boston, Wagner 28-0 (12:44); 29-0, Boston, Wagner 29-0 (12:44); 30-0, Boston, Wagner 30-0 (12:44); 31-0, Boston, Wagner 31-0 (12:44); 32-0, Boston, Wagner 32-0 (12:44); 33-0, Boston, Wagner 33-0 (12:44); 34-0, Boston, Wagner 34-0 (12:44); 35-0, Boston, Wagner 35-0 (12:44); 36-0, Boston, Wagner 36-0 (12:44); 37-0, Boston, Wagner 37-0 (12:44); 38-0, Boston, Wagner 38-0 (12:44); 39-0, Boston, Wagner 39-0 (12:44); 40-0, Boston, Wagner 40-0 (12:44).		
Metropolitan Division							Shots on Goal—Boston 14-10 12-36		
Washington	38	24	11	3	51	138	Goals—Johnston, 12:01 (12:44); 13-0, Boston, Wagner 13-0 (12:44); 14-0, Boston, Wagner 14-0 (12:44); 15-0, Boston, Wagner 15-0 (12:44); 16-0, Boston, Wagner 16-0 (12:44); 17-0, Boston, Wagner 17-0 (12:44); 18-0, Boston, Wagner 18-0 (12:44); 19-0, Boston, Wagner 19-0 (12:44); 20-0, Boston, Wagner 20-0 (12:44); 21-0, Boston, Wagner 21-0 (12:44); 22-0, Boston, Wagner 22-0 (12:44); 23-0, Boston, Wagner 23-0 (12:44); 24-0, Boston, Wagner 24-0 (12:44); 25-0, Boston, Wagner 25-0 (12:44); 26-0, Boston, Wagner 26-0 (12:44); 27-0, Boston, Wagner 27-0 (12:44); 28-0, Boston, Wagner 28-0 (12:44); 29-0, Boston, Wagner 29-0 (12:44); 30-0, Boston, Wagner 30-0 (12:44); 31-0, Boston, Wagner 31-0 (12:44); 32-0, Boston, Wagner 32-0 (12:44); 33-0, Boston, Wagner 33-0 (12:44); 34-0, Boston, Wagner 34-0 (12:44); 35-0, Boston, Wagner 35-0 (12:44); 36-0, Boston, Wagner 36-0 (12:44); 37-0, Boston, Wagner 37-0 (12:44); 38-0, Boston, Wagner 38-0 (12:44); 39-0, Boston, Wagner 39-0 (12:44); 40-0, Boston, Wagner 40-0 (12:44).		
Columbus	39	23	13	3	49	129	Power-play opportunities—Philadelphia 14-10 10-10 5-6 Chicago of 4.		
Pittsburgh	39	21	12	6	48	133	Goals—Philadelphia, Neuvirth 1-13 (30 shots saves), Nashville, Saros 9-0 (17:17).		
N.Y. Islanders	38	13	4	4	46	114	A-76:181 (17:33), T-2:39.		
N.Y. Rangers	38	17	14	7	41	111	Golden Knights 2, Kings 0		
Edmonton	39	18	17	3	37	94	Vegas		
New Jersey	38	15	16	7	37	113	0 0 0-0		
Philadelphia	39	15	19	5	35	114	First Period—1 Vegas, 0 Pittsburgh (Schmidt, Eakin), 3-43 (pp), 5-11 (pp), 6-11 (pp), 7-11 (pp), 8-11 (pp), 9-11 (pp), 10-11 (pp), 11-11 (pp), 12-11 (pp), 13-11 (pp), 14-11 (pp), 15-11 (pp), 16-11 (pp), 17-11 (pp), 18-11 (pp), 19-11 (pp), 20-11 (pp), 21-11 (pp), 22-11 (pp), 23-11 (pp), 24-11 (pp), 25-11 (pp), 26-11 (pp), 27-11 (pp), 28-11 (pp), 29-11 (pp), 30-11 (pp), 31-11 (pp), 32-11 (pp), 33-11 (pp), 34-11 (pp), 35-11 (pp), 36-11 (pp), 37-11 (pp), 38-11 (pp), 39-11 (pp), 40-11 (pp).		
Western Conference							Shots on Goal—Philadelphia 13-12 12-36		
Central Division							Power-play opportunities—Philadelphia 14-10 10-10 5-6 Chicago of 4.		
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Goals—Philadelphia, Neuvirth 1-13 (30 shots saves), Nashville, Saros 9-0 (17:17).		
Winnipeg	39	25	12	2	52	134	A-76:181 (17:33), T-2:39.		
Nashville	41	24	15	2	50	124	Golden Knights 2, Kings 0		
Colorado	40	19	13	8	46	124	Vegas		
Dallas	40	20	16	4	44	108	0 0 0-0		
Minnesota	38	18	17	3	39	108	First Period—1 Vegas, 0 Pittsburgh (Schmidt, Eakin), 3-43 (pp), 5-11 (pp), 6-11 (pp), 7-11 (pp), 8-11 (pp), 9-11 (pp), 10-11 (pp), 11-11 (pp), 12-11 (pp), 13-11 (pp), 14-11 (pp), 15-11 (pp), 16-11 (pp), 17-11 (pp), 18-11 (pp), 19-11 (pp), 20-11 (pp), 21-11 (pp), 22-11 (pp), 23-11 (pp), 24-11 (pp), 25-11 (pp), 26-11 (pp), 27-11 (pp), 28-11 (pp), 29-11 (pp), 30-11 (pp), 31-11 (pp), 32-11 (pp), 33-11 (pp), 34-11 (pp), 35-11 (pp), 36-11 (pp), 37-11 (pp), 38-11 (pp), 39-11 (pp), 40-11 (pp).		
Chicago	42	15	21	6	36	121	Shots on Goal—Los Angeles 8-4-5 17-41 (17:17).		
St. Louis	37	18	14	3	34	102	Power-play opportunities—Los Angeles 10-10 10-10 5-6 Chicago of 4.		
Calgary	40	24	12	4	52	141	Goals—Los Angeles, Campbell 5-8-10 (47 shots saves), Vegas, Pfeiffer 2-3-10 (17:17).		
Anaheim	39	23	13	5	50	132	A-18:319 (37:36), T-2:22.		
San Jose	41	21	13	7	49	140	Scoring leaders		
Los Angeles	41	19	14	4	42	124	Through Tuesday		
Vancouver	39	18	17	3	39	111	Nikita Kucherov, TB 40 19 46		
Arizona	39	16	22	2	36	100	Connor Rantanen, CO 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Mike Matheson, PH 40 17 45		
Pacific Division							Cmoro MacDonald, ED 40 17 45		
Calgary	40	24	12	4	52	141	Mikko Miettinen, EDM 40 17 45		
Anaheim	39	23	13	5	50	132	Johnny Gaudreau, EDM 40 17 45		
San Jose	41	19	14	4	42	124	Mitchell Marner, TOR 39 13 40		
Vancouver	39	18	17	3	39	111	Brayden Point, TOR 39 13 40		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	David Pastrnak, BOS 40 24 26		
Arizona	39	16	22	2	36	100	Patrick Kane, WPG 41 22 28		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Blake Wheeler, PH 39 13 40		
San Jose	41	16	20	3	35	92	Mark Scheifele, CPG 39 13 40		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
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Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Sean Durand, EDM 40 17 45		
Los Angeles	41	16	20	3	35	92	Jack Eichel, PH 40 17 45		
Los Angeles									

NHL roundup

Boston outlasts Chicago

Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — David Pastrnak had a goal and an assist, Tuukka Rask made 36 saves and the Boston Bruins beat the Chicago Blackhawks 4-2 on Tuesday in the Winter Classic at Notre Dame.

Patrice Bergeron, Sean Kuraly and Brad Marchand also scored as Boston won for the second time in three appearances in the NHL's annual outdoor game on New Year's Day. The Bruins went 2-for-5 with the man advantage and killed off each of the Blackhawks' four power plays.

Backed by most of the sellout crowd of 76,126 in perfect conditions for outdoor hockey — the game-time temperature was 35.5 degrees, and a gray, overcast sky took the sun out of the equation — Chicago pushed hard for the tying score in the closing minutes, but came up empty.

Brendan Perlini and Dominik Kahun scored for the Blackhawks (15-21-6), and Cam Ward made 32 stops.

Chicago had won five of six, but it remained winless in an NHL-high fourth appearance in the Winter Classic. It also dropped to 1-5 in six outdoor games — also tops in the league.

Predators 4, Flyers 0: Viktor Arvidsson scored twice, Juuse Saros made 32 saves and host Nashville beat Philadelphia. Craig Smith and Rocco Grimaldi also scored for Nashville, which has won two straight.

Michael Neuvirth made 26 saves for the Flyers, who have lost four in a row.

The shutout was Saros' second of the season and the sixth of his career.

Making his first start since Dec. 15, Saros was busy early, stopping 13 shots in the first period. He made 12 saves in the second and seven in the third period.

Golden Knights 2, Kings 0: Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 17 shots for his league-leading sixth shutout and kept Vegas blanked Los Angeles.

Brandon Pirri continued his amazing scoring run for the Golden Knights in the third period. He jumped on a loose puck at the right faceoff dot and sniped his sixth goal and eighth point in seven games this season. Pirri has nine goals in nine games since joining Vegas last season.

Fleury, who improved to 7-0-3 in his last 10 appearances dating to Dec. 9, got his 23rd win in his 37th start — both league bests. Alex Tuch added an empty-netter in the final minute.

NBA

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	18	1	718	—
Boston	14	24	632	3½
Brooklyn	15	23	583	3
New York	17	21	447	10½
Philadelphia	17	23	237	18½
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Charlotte	18	18	500	—
Atlanta	17	18	486	—
Orlando	16	20	444	2
Washington	14	23	378	4½
Atlanta	15	25	306	7
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	16	10	722	—
Indiana	25	12	676	1½
Detroit	19	18	457	9½
Chicago	10	27	270	16½
Cleveland	8	29	216	18½

Western Conference				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	11	15	583	—
San Antonio	21	17	553	1
Memphis	18	18	500	3
Dallas	19	17	472	4
New Orleans	17	21	447	5
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	24	11	686	—
Oklahoma City	23	13	639	1½
Portland	22	16	579	3½
Utah	18	20	474	7½
Minnesota	17	20	459	8

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	25	13	658	—
L.A. Clippers	21	16	568	3½
L.A. Lakers	21	16	568	3½
Sacramento	19	18	514	5½
Phoenix	9	29	237	16

Tuesday's games				
Toronto 122, Utah 116				
Milwaukee 121, Detroit 98				
Denver 115, New York 108				
Portland 113, Sacramento 108, OT				
Philadelphia 119, L.A. Clippers 113				
Wednesday's games				
Atlanta at Washington				
Dallas at Charlotte				
Miami at Cleveland				
New Orleans at Brooklyn				
Detroit at Memphis				
Minnesota at Boston				
Orlando at Chicago				
Philadelphia at Phoenix				
Oklahoma City at L.A. Lakers				

Thursday's games				
Toronto at San Antonio				
Denver at Sacramento				
Houston at Golden State				
Friday's games				
Utah at Cleveland				
Brooklyn at Memphis				
Washington at Boston				
Indiana at Chicago				
Orlando at Minnesota				
San Antonio at Miami				
Atlanta at Philadelphia				
Phoenix at Phoenix				
New York at L.A. Lakers				
Oklahoma City at Portland				

Saturday				
76ers 119, Clippers 113				
PHILADELPHIA — Butler 5-13 5-6 16, Chandler 3-6 0-0 8, Embiid 2-4 1-2 28, Simmons 6-13 2-6 14, Redick 5-11 4-4 18, Bolden 4-4 0-0 5, Muscala 4-4 0-0 10, McConnell 4-4 3-4 11, Shanett 1-2 0-0 3, Korkmaz 1-6 1-1 3. Totals 42-87 23-33 119.				
L.A. CLIPPERS — Harris 7-15 6-6 21, Gallinari 7-15 5-6 21, Gortat 1-4 4-4 6, Gilchrist 0-1 0-0 1, Bradley 0-1 0-0 2, Scott 0-0 0-0 6, Harrell 9-14 2-5 20, Scott 1-4 0-0 2, Marjanovic 0-1 0-0 0, Beverley 1-3 2-4 5, Hornswell 0-0 0-0 0, Williams 2-4 0-0 2, Williams 8-19 5-9 22. Totals 42-91 24-34 113.				
L.A. CLIPPERS — Butler 5-13 5-6 16, Chandler 3-6 0-0 8, Embiid 2-4 1-2 28, Simmons 6-13 2-6 14, Redick 5-11 4-4 18, Bolden 4-4 0-0 5, Muscala 4-4 0-0 10, McConnell 4-4 3-4 11, Shanett 1-2 0-0 3, Korkmaz 1-6 1-1 3. Totals 42-87 23-33 119.				

PHILADELPHIA — Butler 5-13 5-6 16, Chandler 3-6 0-0 8, Embiid 2-4 1-2 28, Simmons 6-13 2-6 14, Redick 5-11 4-4 18, Bolden 4-4 0-0 5, Muscala 4-4 0-0 10, McConnell 4-4 3-4 11, Shanett 1-2 0-0 3, Korkmaz 1-6 1-1 3. Totals 42-87 23-33 119.				
L.A. CLIPPERS — Harris 7-15 6-6 21, Gallinari 7-15 5-6 21, Gortat 1-4 4-4 6, Gilchrist 0-1 0-0 1, Bradley 0-1 0-0 2, Scott 0-0 0-0 6, Harrell 9-14 2-5 20, Scott 1-4 0-0 2, Marjanovic 0-1 0-0 0, Beverley 1-3 2-4 5, Hornswell 0-0 0-0 0, Williams 2-4 0-0 2, Williams 8-19 5-9 22. Totals 42-91 24-34 113.				
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L.A. CLIPPERS — Harris 7-15 6-6 21, Gallinari 7-15 5-6 21, Gortat 1-4 4-4 6, Gilchrist 0-1 0-0 1, Bradley 0-1 0-0 2, Scott 0-0 0-0 6, Harrell 9-14 2-5 20, Scott 1-4 0-0 2, Marjanovic 0-1 0-0 0, Beverley 1-3 2-4 5, Hornswell 0-0 0-0 0, Williams 2-4 0-0 2, Williams 8-19 5-9 22. Totals 42-91 24-34 113.				
L.A. CLIPPERS — Butler 5-13 5-6 16, Chandler 3-6 0-0 8, Embiid 2-4 1-2 28, Simmons 6-13 2-6 14, Redick 5-11 4-4 18, Bolden 4-4 0-0 5, Muscala 4-4 0-0 10, McConnell 4-4 3-4 11, Shanett 1-2 0-0 3, Korkmaz 1-6 1-1 3. Totals 42-87 23-33 119.				

PHILADELPHIA — Butler 5-13 5-6 16, Chandler 3-6 0-0 8, Embiid 2-4 1-2 28, Simmons 6-13 2-6 14, Redick 5-11 4-4 18, Bolden 4-4 0-0 5, Muscala 4-4 0-0 10, McConnell 4-4 3-4 11, Shanett 1-2 0-0 3, Korkmaz 1-6 1-1 3. Totals 42-87 23-33 119.				
L.A. CLIPPERS — Harris 7-15 6-6 21, Gallinari 7-15 5-6 21, Gortat 1-4 4-4 6, Gilchrist 0-1 0-0 1, Bradley 0-1 0-0 2, Scott 0-0 0-0 6, Harrell 9-14 2-5 20, Scott 1-4 0-0 2, Marjanovic 0-1 0-0 0, Beverley 1-3 2-4 5, Hornswell 0-0 0-0 0, Williams 2-4 0-0 2, Williams 8-19 5-9 22. Totals 42-91 24-34 113.				
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Nuggets 115, Knicks 108

NEW YORK				
2-11 5, Kornet 6-9 3-3 19, Mudiya 7-20 0-2 15, Hardaway Jr. 7-12 1-1 15, Katter 6-11 5-6 17, Ntilikina 4-6 0-0 10, Trier 3-9 0-0 7, Deaton 2-2 2-1. Totals 42-93 13-19 108.				
DENVER				
Jokic 8-16 2-3 15, Plumlee 4-5 0-0 8, Murray 4-12 0-0 8, Craig 5-10 1-2 13, Millsap 6-13 4-10 16, Lyles 4-7 0-0 9, Morris 2-8 0-0 5, Beasley 8-15 2-3 23, Harris 1-5 0-0 4. Totals 44-95 15-23 115.				
New York 32 24 24 30-115				
Denver 28 27 27 33-115				

Three-point goals—New York 11-27 (Kornet 4-7, Ntilikina 3-3, Knox 2-7, Trier 1-1, Mudiya 1-2, Hardaway Jr. 1-4, Deaton 0-1, Vornleh 0-2), Denver 12-34 (Beasley 5-8, Hernangomez 2-4, Craig 2-5, Jokic 1-2, Lyles 1-3, Morris 1-4, Murray 0-3, Millsap 0-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—New York 43 (Vornleh 14), Denver 53 (Jokic 14), Assists—New York 28 (Mudrya 9), Denver 36 (Jokic 15). Total Fouls—New York 21, Denver 19. A—19,520 (19,520).				
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Bucks 121, Pistons 98

DETROIT				
20-7 29, Drummond 6-12 3-5 15, Jackson 8-10 1-19, B-Rowen 0-7 0-0 0, Leuer 3-5 0-0 6, Calderon 0-5 0-0 0, Galloway 1-2 0-0 0, Kemar 0-0 0-0 0, Robinson 1-2 0-0 2, Thomas 3-5 7-13. Totals 35-92 16-21 98.				
MILWAUKEE				
Antetokounmpo 6-11 3-5 15, Lopez 7-13 4-5 25, Bledsoe 7-14 4-18, Brogdon 6-7 1-3, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Wilson 0-0 0-0 0, Maker 1-2 1-3 3, Hill 3-4 2-5 8, Devinenco 0-0 0-0 0, S-Rowen 2-3 0-0 4, Snell 4-5 0-0 9, Coughnough 2-3 0-0 4. Totals 47-79 17-26 121.				
Detroit 27 25 21 25-98				
Milwaukee 35 33 24 29-121				

Three-point goals—Detroit 12-33 (Griffin 4-5, Thomas 2-2, Jackson 2-3, Kemar 2-4, Bullock 2-5, B-Rowen 0-1, Leuer 0-1, Calderon 0-4, Galloway 0-4), Milwaukee 10-27 (Lopez 7-12, Snell 1-2, Brogdon 1-2, Middleton 1-4, Hill 0-1, Maker 0-1, S-Rowen 0-1, Antetokounmpo 0-1, Wilson 0-1, Bledsoe 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Detroit 42 (Leuer, Griffin 9), Milwaukee 43 (Antetokounmpo 8), Assists—Detroit 23 (Griffin 4), Milwaukee 28 (Antetokounmpo 7), Total Fouls—Detroit 25, Milwaukee 19. Technicals—Detroit coach Pistons (Defensive three second), Milwaukee coach Bucks (Defensive three second) 2, Maker, Lopez. A—17,534 (17,500).				
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Raptors 122, Jazz 116

UTAH				
5-8 21, Gobert 6-7 4-15, Rubio 6-12 9-12 14, Mitchell 7-23 3-19, Crowder 9-15 7-7 20, O'Neale 0-0 0-0 0, Seifolsola 1-3 0-0 3, Exum 4-11 0-0 8, Korver 1-4 0-0 3. Totals 42-97 23-36 116.				
TORONTO				
Leonard 16-22 13-17 45, Siakam 9-15 7-7 28, Ibaka 3-10 1-4 8, VanVleet 3-5 1-2 8, Green 1-4 0-0 1, Milne 0-0 0-0 0, Powell 6-11 0-0 14, Anunoby 1-2 0-0 2, Monroe 2-5 3-4 7, Wright 4-9 1-8 21. Totals 45-82 25-35 122.				
Utah 29 32 31 31-116				
Toronto 26 25 44 27-122				

Three-point goals—Utah 9-32 (Crowder 5-7, Mitchell 2-8, Seifolsola 1-2, Korver 1-4, Favors 0-2, Rubio 0-4, Ingles 0-5), Toronto 7-20 (Siakam 3-4, Powell 2-4, VanVleet 1-2, Ibaka 1-3, Wright 0-2, Green 0-2, Leonard 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Toronto 18 (VanVleet 5), Total Fouls—Utah 27, Toronto 21. Technicals—Toronto coach Raptors (Defensive three second) 4, A—19,800 (19,800).				
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Leonard scored 20 for the second straight game, and went 13-for-17 at the free-throw line. He said he wasn't aware of his scoring achievement until after the game.				
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"I try to stay in the moment and keep competing every possession and not worry about myself, just try to get a team win," Leonard said.				
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It was the third 40-point game of Leonard's career, including a 43-point effort against Memphis in Game 4 of the first round in April 2017.				
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Leonard has scored 20 or more points in a career-best 14 straight games.				
Jae Crowder scored a career-				

Leonard has scored 20 or more points in a career-best 14 straight games.				
Jae Crowder scored a career-				



FRANK KUNN, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Raptors forward Kawhi Leonard, left, drives to the net under pressure from Chicago Bulls guard Jimmy Butler during the second half Tuesday in Toronto. Leonard scored a career-high 45 points in a 122-116 win.

Roundup

Kawhi's 45 lead Raptors

Associated Press

TORONTO — Kawhi Leonard was so good Tuesday night, Raptors coach Nick Nurse just wanted to enjoy the show.

Leonard scored a career-high 45 points, Pascal Siakam had a career-best 28 points with 10 rebounds, and Toronto beat the Utah Jazz 122-116.

"That's good, we all got to witness that live and in person," Nurse said of Leonard's outburst.

"He was phenomenal. I've kind of been waiting for one of these nights where he makes them all." Norman Powell scored a season-high 14 points, and the Raptors won their fourth straight at home despite playing without All-Star guard Kyle Lowry (sore back) and center Jonas Valanciunas (dislocated left thumb).

"The way he's playing right now is really big for our team with a lot of guys out," Powell said of Leonard.

Leonard shot 16-for-22 overall, missing all three attempts from three-point range, and went 13-for-17 at the free-throw line. He said he wasn't aware of his scoring achievement until after the game.

"I try to stay in the moment and keep competing every possession and not worry about myself, just try to get a team win," Leonard said.

It was the third 40-point game of Leonard's career, including a 43-point effort against Memphis in Game 4 of the first round in April 2017.

Leonard has scored 20 or more points in a career-best 14 straight games.

Jae Crowder scored a career-

high 30 points, Derrick Favors had 21 and Donovan Mitchell scored 19 as the Jazz dropped to 10-12 on the road and 18-20 overall.

"Jae was hot," Jazz coach Quin Snyder said. "It's unfortunate that we didn't capitalize on the night that he had."

Utah's Rudy Gobert scored 16 points, and Ricky Rubio had 14.

Leonard made all seven of his field-goal attempts in the third quarter and added five foul shots. His 19 points were the second most in any quarter by a Raptors player this season.

"He scored in the post, he scored in isolations, he scored going to the rim over Rudy," Snyder said. "Eventually we started hitting him when he walked across half court. The biggest thing was we put him on the line."

Bucks 121, Pistons 98

Brook Lopez had 25 points, Giannis Antetokounmpo threw down a spectacular one-handed dunk and host Milwaukee cruised past Detroit.

Khris Middleton had 22 points and Eric Bledsoe had 18 for Milwaukee. Antetokounmpo had just 15 points, but his slam over Jon Leuer was the highlight of the night. Antetokounmpo blew past Andre Drummond, jumped and reached his right arm over a leaping Leuer for the slam during the first quarter.

Milwaukee has won four straight and eight of nine. The Bucks are an NBA-best 26-10.

Nuggets 115, Knicks 108

Nikola Jokic had 19 points, 14 rebounds and 15 assists, including a late no-look pass to wrap things up, as host Denver picked up its

ninth straight home victory.

Reserve Malik Beasley added a career-high 23 points for the Western Conference-leading Nuggets, who have now knocked off the Knicks 11 straight times at the Pepsi Center. It was far from easy, though, with the Nuggets needing a big three-pointer from Jokic with 2:55 remaining to finally gain some separation.

The struggling Knicks have lost eight in a row.

Tail Blazers 113, Kings 108

(OT): Damian Lillard shook off a sluggish night shooting to score five of his 25 points in overtime, and visiting Portland rallied after blowing a 14-point halftime lead.

Junior Nurkic had 24 points and a career-high 23 rebounds to help Portland to its fourth straight win over Sacramento. CJ McCollum added 16 points, and Maurice Harkless had 11 points and nine rebounds.

76ers 119, Clippers 113

Joel Embiid notched his NBA-leading 32nd double-double of the season in his return and Philadelphia withstood a furious fourth-quarter rally by Los Angeles.

Embiid was a game-time decision after missing one game because of a sore left knee. He didn't appear hindered while recording 28 points and 19 rebounds. He scored 15 points in the first quarter, including 10 of the Sixers' final 16.

Former Clipper JJ Redick added 18 points and Jimmy Butler scored 16 before being ejected to help Philadelphia improve to 8-11 on the road. Ben Simmons just missed a triple-double with 14 points, nine rebounds and eight assists.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

St. John's routs No. 16 Marquette

By MIKE FITZPATRICK
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The best player in the building was Shamorie Ponds — by far.

Ponds scored 20 of his 26 points in the first half, dominating a matchup between two of the nation's top guards, and St. John's rebounded impressively from its first loss by routing No. 16 Marquette 89-69 on Tuesday night.

Marvin Clark II had 22 points for the Red Storm (13-1, 1-1 Big East), who snapped Marquette's eight-game winning streak with an eye-opening performance on campus at Carnesecca Arena. Mustapha Heron scored 16, all after halftime, as every St. John's starter reached double figures.

"Obviously, they're a juggernaut," Marquette coach Steve Wojciechowski said. "You're looking at one of the top 20 teams in the country."

With leading scorer Markus Howard held to a season-low eight points on 2-for-15 shooting, the Golden Eagles (11-3, 0-1) got blown out in their conference opener. Howard entered averaging 25.1 points per game, best in the Big East and ranked fifth in the nation.

Joey Hauser had 15 points to pace Marquette, which went 6-for-21 from three-point range (28.6 percent).

"I just didn't make shots," Howard said. "I didn't play good at all. That was on me."

The anticipated matchup between Howard and Ponds was no contest from the start. Ponds came out sizzling and scored eight points in the first 2:37, matching his total on 2-for-13 shooting in Saturday night's excruciating loss at Seton Hall.

The 6-foot-1 junior from Brook-

lyn, the Big East preseason player of the year, then scored the final nine points of the first half for the Red Storm, including a long three that gave them a 39-31 lead at the break.

"We needed to bounce back from last game, not only individually, but as a team," Ponds said.

It was reminiscent of last February, when Ponds set an arena record with 44 points in an 86-78 win over Marquette.

This time, the left-hander finished 8-for-15 from the field, including 4-for-7 on threes. He added seven rebounds, five assists and two steals in the Red Storm's most lopsided victory over a ranked opponent since beating No. 20 Pittsburgh by 21 points in December 1998.

"I'm just glad he played well. I know he didn't feel good about last game," St. John's coach Chris Mullin said. "I thought he played a beautiful game."

Meanwhile, the 5-foot-11 Howard went 1-for-10 in the first half and never got going. He was whistled for four fouls in 26 minutes.

"I feel like we keyed on him. We know he likes to take a lot of threes, so we tried to limit them and the transition points," Ponds said.

Big picture: Marquette: Picked second in the Big East preseason poll, the Golden Eagles have quality non-conference wins over Louisville, Kansas State, Wisconsin and Buffalo that moved them up the national rankings. But away from home, they've lost by wide margins to Indiana, Kansas and now St. John's.

"There's no question we have to show much better toughness and execution on the road," Wojciechowski said.

St. John's: Picked fourth in



KEVIN HAGEN/AP

St. John's forward Marvin Clark II blocks a shot by Marquette forward Theo John during the first half Tuesday in New York. St. John's beat No. 16 Marquette 89-69.

the Big East preseason poll, the Red Storm are targeting their first NCAA Tournament appearance in four seasons under Mullin. They opened 12-0 against a soft non-conference schedule for the school's best start since winning its first 14 games in 1982-83. Mullin's sophomore year. The run ended at Seton Hall in the league opener. But dating back to last season, St. John's has won its past three regular-season games against ranked opponents.

"We feel like we have a good enough team to beat anybody," Mullin said.

Still smarting: St. John's led by 10 with 6:20 left at Seton Hall and had several chances to close

it out, but got stagnant on offense and lost 76-74 on a three-pointer by Shavar Reynolds with less than a second remaining.

A steal by the Red Storm that could have sealed it in the waning seconds was negated when an official blew his whistle, believing the clock had not started on an inbound play. Two days later, the Big East released a statement saying the official made an error in judgment that was not correctable.

Late in Tuesday's game, in a crowd that included tennis great John McEnroe sitting courtside, St. John's students who chanted "Over-rated!" at Marquette during the second half showered

their own team with cheers of

"Undefeated! Undefeated!"

"I believe that we finally have gelled as a team," Clark said. "We have some talented guys on our team. When we are playing together and sharing the ball, it's really hard to stop us."

Stat pack: Marquette had a 27-2 edge in points off the bench. ... Heron grabbed eight rebounds and Clark had seven. ... St. John's had a 12-0 advantage in fast-break points and shot 54 percent from the field, including 11-for-24 (46 percent) from beyond the arc.

"They create a lot of headaches on defense," Wojciechowski said. "They're going to win a ton of games."

Top 25 roundup

Seminoles wrap up nonconference play with win



PHIL SEARS/AP

Winthrop guard Bjorn Broman, left, fouls Florida State guard Trent Forrestal during the second half Tuesday in Tallahassee, Fla. Florida State won 87-76.

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Terrance Mann and Phil Cofer helped No. 9 Florida State keep its impressive start to the season going and finish its nonconference schedule nearly perfect.

Mann scored a season-high 22 points, Cofer added 14 and the Seminoles beat Winthrop 87-76 Tuesday for their seventh straight victory. Florida State improved to 12-1 for the fourth time in school history.

"I'm glad that we got the non-conference part of the schedule out of the way," Florida State coach Leonard Hamilton said. "The most positive thing I can say is that we can feel good about the fact that we're 12-1 and I really believe we have still a lot of upside with this team."

Mann shot 10-for-11 from the floor, scoring 14 second-half points and grabbing seven rebounds. Cofer made four of his five shots in the first half but missed all three

in the second.

The Seminoles' only blemish so far while matching their best start was a six-point loss to Villanova on Nov. 25. Florida State even did it while playing 10 games without Cofer, the leading scorer from last season's Elite Eight team, after the senior forward missed nearly seven weeks with a foot injury.

Florida State has long been known as an athletic and deep team. The Seminoles had 39 points from their reserves against Winthrop, and regularly receive significant contributions from their sixth through 11th players. And now with Cofer back from injury, they are arguably one of the deepest teams in college basketball.

"Just to see shots falling for him after what he's been through has been key for us," Mann said. "His energy is back on the defensive end, the vocal energy, and that's just what we needed."

Florida State was 8-for-16 on three-pointers in the first half en route to taking a 52-36 lead. Winthrop came into the game as the No. 2 team in the nation in three-point shots made per game but was just 1-for-10 from beyond the arc in the first half and finished 26.1 percent (6-for-23).

No. 10 Virginia Tech 81, Notre Dame 66: Ty Outlaw hit three three-pointers in a 22-9 second-half run and the host Hokies beat the Fighting Irish. Kerry Blackshear Jr. led the way with 21 points, Nickail Alexander-Walker and Ahmed Hill scored 17 apiece and Outlaw finished with 14 for the Hokies (12-1, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference). Virginia Tech led just 49-44 before Alexander-Walker sparked the run with a pair of driving baskets.

T.J. Gibbs scored 19 points, 13 in the second half, as Notre Dame (10-4, 0-1) had its four-game winning streak snapped. D.J. Harvey added 16 and Nate Laszewski 14.

NFL

Leaders

AFC					
Week 17					
Quarterbacks					
	Att	Com	Yds	TD	Int
Roethlisberger, PIT	675	452	5129	34	16
Andrews, IND	368	233	2897	24	12
Luc, LAC	639	430	4593	39	16
Brady, NE	570	375	4355	29	11
P. Rivers, LAC	588	347	4308	32	12
Watson, HOU	505	345	4105	26	16
D. Davis, IND	381	249	4191	19	10
Keenum, DEN	585	365	3890	18	15
Mayfield, CLE	486	310	3725	27	14
Garland, NYG	414	239	2865	17	15
Runners					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Mixon, CIN	237	1168	4.9	51	8
D. Henry, TEN	215	1059	4.9	98	12
D. Brown, PIT	215	973	4.5	30	12
N. Chubb, CLE	192	996	5.2	92	8
Conner, PIT	215	973	4.5	30	12
L. Miller, HOU	210	973	4.6	97	5
McNiece, IND	209	1015	4.5	34	6
Mack, IND	195	908	4.7	49	9
M. Gordon, LAC	175	885	5.1	34	10
Kareem Hunt, LAC	181	824	4.6	45	7
Receivers					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
D. Hopkins, HOU	115	1572	13.7	49	11
H. Hill, KC	87	1479	17.0	75	12
Smith-Schuster, PIT	111	1426	12.8	97	7
Kelce, KC	103	1336	13.0	43	10
A. Brown, PIT	104	1297	12.5	78	15
T. Hilton, IND	107	1270	16.7	68	6
K. Allen, LAC	110	1223	11.1	54	6
Boyd, CIN	76	1028	13.5	49	7
J. Landry, CLE	81	976	12.0	51	7
Cook, ARI	68	898	13.2	45	6
Punters					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Koch, BAL	60	2842	65	47	4
Kenney, PIT	62	2747	45	47	1
Sanchez, IND	57	2629	63	46	1
L. Edwards, NYG	82	3763	67	45	9
D. Colquitt, CLE	43	3767	79	45	2
R. Allen, NE	64	2885	66	45	1
Boyd, BUF	45	2606	66	45	1
Cooke, JAC	86	3872	72	45	0
D. Colquitt, KC	45	2021	44	45	9
Westman, DEN	45	2905	65	44	7
Punt returns					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
A. Roberts, NYG	23	324	14.1	78	1
D. Brown, OAK	20	281	14.0	78	1
D. King, LAC	20	213	13.8	73	1
T. Hill, KC	23	213	10.6	91	1
R. Allen, CIN	23	213	10.6	34	0
C. Rogers, IND	23	215	9.3	51	0
P. Rogers, CIN	23	215	9.3	51	0
Switzer, PIT	30	252	8.4	23	0
Tyler Ervin, NYG	21	175	8.4	27	0
Eveland, NYG	20	154	7.7	29	0
Kickoff returns					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Jennings, TEN	22	698	31.7	94	1
R. Allen, CIN	20	698	31.7	94	1
Patterson, NE	23	663	28.8	95	1
T. Smith, KC	33	886	26.8	97	0
E. Ebron, CIN	22	698	31.7	94	1
D. King, LAC	22	698	31.7	94	1
Ch. Moore, BAL	21	698	31.7	94	1
Switzer, PIT	20	698	31.7	94	1
Scoring					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
A. Brown, PIT	15	0	0	90	0
M. Gordon, LAC	14	10	0	84	0
E. Ebron, CIN	14	1	12	84	0
T. Hill, KC	14	1	12	84	0
K. Allen, LAC	13	13	0	84	0
Conner, PIT	13	12	1	82	0
McNiece, IND	12	5	0	72	0
J. White, NE	12	5	0	72	0
M. Williams, LAC	10	10	0	68	0
D. Hopkins, HOU	10	10	0	68	0
Kicking					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Fairbairn, HOU	39-49	37.42	54	150	0
B. Butler, KC	39-49	37.42	54	150	0
Butker, KC	39-49	37.42	54	150	0
Gostkowski, NE	49-57	23.27	52	130	0
Brady, NE	49-57	23.27	52	130	0
Vinatieri, IND	44-47	23.27	54	111	0
Brady, NE	44-47	23.27	54	111	0
Bullock, CIN	39-49	37.42	54	150	0
McManus, DEN	39-49	37.42	54	150	0
Hauschka, BUF	39-49	37.42	54	150	0
Team statistics					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
OFFENSE					
	Yds	Avg	LG	Rush	Pass
Kansas City	403.3	9.0	31.30	115	293.3
Pittsburgh	397.8	14.9	17.92	103	294.8
New England	386.2	10.4	27.88	115	271.7
Indianapolis	376.2	10.4	27.88	107	269.5
Baltimore	376.2	10.4	27.88	107	269.5
L.A. Chargers	376.2	10.4	27.88	107	269.5
Cleveland	368.8	11.92	23.09	118	250.8
Houston	368.8	11.92	23.09	118	250.8
Denver	368.8	11.92	23.09	118	250.8
Houston	368.8	11.92	23.09	118	250.8
Tennessee	312.4	12.64	18.51	126	185.9
Cincinnati	312.4	12.64	18.51	126	185.9
Indianapolis	299.2	10.4	27.88	106	193.6
N.Y. Jets	299.2	10.4	27.88	106	193.6
Buffalo	299.2	10.4	27.88	106	193.6
Miami	299.2	10.4	27.88	106	193.6
DEFENSE					
	Yds	Avg	LG	Rush	Pass
Baltimore	292.9	8.29	21.00	119	173.9
Buffalo	292.9	8.29	21.00	119	173.9
Jacksonville	311.4	11.69	19.46	141	170.9
Indianapolis	311.4	11.69	19.46	141	170.9
Tennessee	333.4	11.64	21.69	169	164.5
L.A. Chargers	333.4	11.64	21.69	169	164.5
Indianapolis	333.4	11.64	21.69	169	164.5
Houston	333.4	11.64	21.69	169	164.5
New England	365.1	11.96	24.56	196	169.1
Denver	365.1	11.96	24.56	196	169.1
Oakland	365.1	11.96	24.56	196	169.1
San Francisco	391.5	13.21	24.58	227	164.3
Cleveland	391.5	13.21	24.58	227	164.3
Kansas City	413.6	13.78	27.59	241	172.6

NFC					
Week 17					
Quarterbacks					
	Att	Com	Yds	TD	Int
Ryan, ATL	608	422	4924	35	17
Goff, LA	561	364	4688	32	12
A. Rodgers, GBY	597	372	4442	25	2
Manning, NYG	560	380	4390	21	11
Cousins, MIN	606	425	4288	30	8
Brees, NO	664	399	3200	12	0
Prescott, DAL	526	356	3858	22	8
Brady, NE	565	367	3777	11	11
Ru. Wilson, SEA	427	280	3448	35	13
C. Newton, CAR	471	320	3395	24	7
Runners					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
E. Elliott, DAL	304	1434	4.7	41	6
Barkley, NYG	261	1307	5.0	78	11
Gurley, LA	256	1251	4.9	36	17
C. Carson, SEA	247	1151	4.7	61	9
C. McCaffrey, CAR	219	1098	5.0	59	7
A. Peterson, WAS	251	1042	4.2	90	7
D. Johnson, ARI	258	940	3.6	53	7
J. Howard, CHI	250	935	3.7	42	9
Kamara, NOR	194	883	4.6	49	14
Barber, TAM	234	871	3.7	28	5
Receivers					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Ju. Jones, ATL	113	1677	14.8	58	8
M. Evans, TAM	86	1524	17.7	72	8
Mich. Thomas, NO	128	1405	11.2	72	9
D. Adams, GBY	111	1386	12.5	57	13
Kittle, SF	88	1377	15.6	68	9
Thielen, MIN	113	1373	12.2	68	9
R. Woods, LA	86	1219	14.2	39	6
Brady, NE	89	1304	14.0	57	10
Ertz, PHIL	116	1163	10.0	46	5
Golladay, DET	70	1063	15.2	60	5
Punters					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
A. Lee, ARI	94	4558	68	48.6	0
M. Dickson, SEA	61	3759	68	48.6	0
Johnston, PHIL	61	2937	68	48.6	0
Brady, NE	43	1996	45.7	48.6	0
Hekker, ATL	43	1992	68	45.3	0
Bosher, ATL	60	2729	57	46.5	0
Woods, NYG	71	3275	46.4	45.3	0
Way, WAS	79	3581	63	45.3	0
Palardy, CAR	61	2759	59	45.3	0
Wile, MIN	72	3255	70	45.2	0
Punt returns					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Cohen, CHI	33	411	12.5	44	0
Shelers, MIN	20	276	12.0	70	0
Natons, LA	60	280	10.8	44	0
Kirk, ARI	21	164	7.8	44	0
Hardy, ATL	20	147	7.4	18	0
A. Humphries, TAM	21	139	6.6	16	0
Lockett, SEA	25	143	5.7	19	0
Kickoff returns					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
C. Coleman, NYG	23	598	26.0	51	0
R. James, SF	23	580	25.2	97	0
M. Hall, ATL	26	616	23.7	53	0
Scoring					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Gurley, LA	18	14	4	0	114
Kamara, NOR	15	11	4	0	92
Barkley, NYG	15	11	4	0	92
A. Rodgers, GBY	13	13	0	80	0
Davidson, ARI	10	7	0	62	0
Philadelphia	10	10	0	60	0
Reed, NYG	10	10	0	60	0
Diggs, MIN	9	9	0	56	0
Thielen, MIN	9	9	0	56	0
Kicking					
	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Lutz, NOR	52-53	28.30	54	136	0
Rosas, NYG	31-32	32.33	57	127	0
Brady, NE	47-59	32.34	53	116	0
M. Crosby, GBY	34-36	30.37	53	116	0
Philadelphia	34-36	30.37	53	116	0
Zuerlein, LA	35-36	27.31	56	124	0
Janikowski, SEA	48-51	22.27	56	111	0
Brady, NE	48-51	22.27	56	111	0
K.J. Elliott, PHIL	33-35	26.31	56	111	0
Parkey, CHI	42-45	23.30	50	111	0
Average per game					
OFFENSE					
	Yards	Rush	Pass	TD	
LA Rams	421.1	13.94	28.17	28.17	0
Tampa Bay	392.5	13.52	23.62	23.62	0
Atlanta	391.3	9.63	29.08	29.08	0
New Orleans	379.2	12.66	25.06	25.06	0
Carolina	379.2	12.66	25.06	25.06	0
Green Bay	369.1	10.42	26.49	26.49	0
Philadelphia	369.1	10.42	26.49	26.49	0
San Francisco	360.6	11.89	24.17	24.17	0
N.Y. Giants	356.1	9.03	25.29	25.29	0
Seattle	356.1	9.03	25.29	25.29	0
Minnesota	345.6	10.31	22.92	22.92	0
Chicago	343.9	12.11	22.28	22.28	0
San Diego	327.7	12.7	22.28	22.28	0
Detroit	327.2	10.38	22.28	22.28	0
Washington	318.9	10.93	18.78	18.78	0
Arizona	241.6	8.93	15.77	15.77	0
DEFENSE					
	Yards	Rush	Pass	TD	
Chicago	299.7	8.00	20.17	20.17	0
Minnesota	299.7	8.00	20.17	20.17	0
Dallas	329.2	9.46	23.74	23.74	0
Detroit	335.0	10.1	22.49	22.49	0
San Francisco	335.0	10.1	22.49	22.49	0
New Orleans	349.1	8.02	26.89	26.89	0
Carolina	353.2	11.28	24.04	24.04	0
Washington	353.2	11.28	24.04	24.04	0
Seattle	353.2	11.28	24.04	24.04	0
Green Bay	353.2	11.28	24.04	24.04	0
LA Rams	358.6	12.23	23.62	23.62	0
Arizona	358.6	12.23	23.62	23.62	0
Philadelphia	358.6	12.23	23.62	23.62	0
N.Y. Giants	371.4	11.88	25.28	25.28	0
Atlanta	383.4	12.29	25.09	25.09	0

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Upset: Texas caps quick rise under Herman

FROM BACK PAGE

knocked to the ground, but there were no reported injuries and Bevo was quickly restrained.

No. 14 Texas (10-4) continued its quick rise under coach Tom Herman, capping his second season with a Sugar Bowl win that will surely send expectations soaring after nearly a decade of mostly mediocrity.

During the postgame celebration, some Texas players were making snow angels in the confetti on the field. The different position groups — like receivers and linebackers — stayed on the field to take pictures together as the Longhorns obviously relished every moment.

"It is incredible," Ehlinger said. "We are on the way. This was a stepping stone for Texas to get back to the elite level. This is going to give us great momentum headed into the offseason, and I am really excited for what we are going to do next year."

Texas stretched its lead to 28-7 with 11:49 left in the fourth quarter on Ehlinger's 1-yard run, finally scoring on fourth down after his first three attempts at running for the score fell just short of the end zone.

"We pride ourselves in our physicality," Herman said. "At this point in our program, that is how we are going to win games. That is always how we are going to win games."

"I'm just so proud of how hard our guys played. They played hard early. They played hard late. They overcame some adversity. It was a complete team effort."

No. 6 Georgia (11-3) was a 12½-point favorite and claimed it would be ready for the Sugar Bowl despite just missing a spot in the College Football Playoff after a loss in the Southeastern Conference championship game. But a sloppy opening sequence indicated otherwise.

Texas jumped out to a 17-0 lead early in the second quarter, largely because of Georgia's mistakes on special teams and offense.

The most costly was when D'Andre Swift fumbled deep in Georgia's own territory, giving Texas possession at the 12. Three plays later, Ehlinger deftly escaped trouble in the pocket and scored on a 9-yard run to give the Longhorns a 17-point advantage with 14:53 left in the second quarter.



RUSTY COSTANZA/AP

Georgia wide receiver Riley Ridley, right, tries to break free of the grasp of Texas defensive back P.J. Locke III during the first half of the Sugar Bowl on Tuesday in New Orleans.



PHOTOS BY MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Washington wide receiver Andre Baccellia, middle, is tackled by Ohio State cornerback Damon Arnette, top, and safety Brendon White during the first half of the Rose Bowl on Tuesday in Pasadena, Calif. Ohio State won 28-23.

Going out in style

Ohio State wins Rose Bowl in Urban Meyer's finale

By GREG BEACHAM
Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — Urban Meyer said he decided to end his remarkable coaching career at Ohio State partly because of the stress inherent in this high-intensity job.

After his Buckeyes blew most of a 25-point lead in the fourth quarter and had to recover a last-minute onside kick to win the Rose Bowl, anybody could understand why this 54-year-old coach can't wait to retire.

But the stress is over. Meyer is going out at the top of his profession. And for the first time, he is a Rose Bowl champion.

Dwayne Haskins passed for 251 yards and three touchdowns, and Meyer headed into retirement with a 28-23 victory after the fifth-ranked Buckeyes held off No. 9 Washington's thrilling comeback in the 105th Rose Bowl on Tuesday.

After the confetti flew in the north end zone, the Buckeyes gathered around Meyer for one last celebration of their coach. He is walking away after going 83-9 at Ohio State with one national championship, three Big Ten titles and this Rose Bowl victory, the Buckeyes' eighth overall in the Granddaddy of Them All.

"I'm a very blessed man," Meyer said. "I'm blessed because of my family, (but) this team, this year, I love this group as much as any I've ever had."

Parris Campbell, Johnnie Dixon and Rashod Berry caught TD passes in the first half for the Buckeyes (13-1), who took a 28-3 lead into the fourth and seemed to be cruising to a blowout.



Ohio State coach Urban Meyer, right, hugs wide receiver Parris Campbell. Meyer retired after the game.

But star running back Myles Gaskin threw a touchdown pass and rushed for two more scores for the Huskies (10-4), scoring from 2 yards out with 42 seconds left.

The Huskies got no closer, however. Defensive player of the game Brendon White intercepted Jake Browning's pass on the 2-point conversion attempt, and Dixon re-

covered Washington's onside kick.

"We're going down as one of three teams in Ohio State history to win 13 games," Buckeyes defensive end Chase Young said. "Legendary team. Legendary coach. We're all legendary right now."

Meyer cited his health last month in his decision to step down. A cyst in Meyer's brain causes severe headaches that are even worse for a man who says he gets not just nervous, but "deathly ill" before big games.

Meyer largely refused to reflect publicly on his career during the month since he announced his plans. After he shook Washington coach Chris Petersen's hand, raised the trophy and walked off the Rose Bowl turf, Meyer finally thought about the journey that brought him back to his home state for a stellar seven-year tenure capped by this late-breaking thriller.

"Every week, every day, every down, when we recruited these players, I just wanted to make sure that we made the great state of Ohio proud," Meyer said. "And once again, we weren't perfect, but we did a lot of good things."

After Southern California's epic win over Penn State and Georgia's double-overtime thriller with Oklahoma over the past two years in Pasadena, the Rose Bowl got another matchup packed with late-game fireworks.

Browning passed for 313 yards and Gaskin rushed for 121 in the final game of the four-year starters' landmark careers at Washington, which has lost three straight New Year's Six bowl games.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

LSU knocks off No. 7 UCF in Fiesta Bowl

By JOHN MARSHALL
Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Joe Burrow watched the ball land in an opposing player's hands and immediately gave chase. Locked in on preventing a pick six, LSU's quarterback didn't see Joey Conors, Central Florida's 313-pound defensive lineman, bearing down on him.

With a thunderous, blindside collision, Burrow found himself flat on his back, woozy and wondering what happened.

Minutes later, after being helped to his feet, Burrow was back on the field, hitting receivers all over the field.

The nation's longest winning streak was over. So was a second self-proclaimed national championship.

The LSU Tigers were Fiesta Bowl champions, thanks to their gritty junior quarterback.

Burrow shook off the big early hit to throw for 394 yards and four touchdowns, helping No. 11 LSU end No. 7 UCF's 25-game winning streak with a 40-32 victory in the Fiesta Bowl on Tuesday.

"I didn't really think about the hit too much after it happened," said Burrow, who had a cut on his neck from the hit. "It hurt for a second, I got right up and went on to the next play."

LSU (10-3, No. 11 CFP) started its first Fiesta Bowl without several key players on defense and fell into an early 11-point hole against the high-scoring Knights (12-1, No. 8 CFP).

The Tigers claved back behind Burrow and a defensive front that made life difficult for UCF quarterback Darriell Mack Jr.

Burrow returned from the early blindside hit to pick apart UCF's secondary, hitting 21 of

34 of passes, including two touchdowns to Justin Jefferson.

"It looked like the passing game we wanted," LSU coach Ed Orgeron said. "Joe was on the money."

LSU sacked Mack five times and made him rush numerous throws, holding the nation's third-best offense to 250 total yards — 295 below its average — while spoiling the Knights' bid for a second straight self-proclaimed national title.

Taj McGowan scored on a 2-yard run and the Knights converted a 2-point conversion to pull UCF to within 40-32. After LSU recovered the onside kick, the Knights' last-ditch attempt finished with a tipped interception, ending a run that started after a loss in the 2016 Cure Bowl.

"Obviously, everyone in the locker room is really upset," UCF defensive lineman Mason Curbiale. "We haven't lost a game since 2016."

UCF declared itself national champions after finishing as the only undefeated FBS team a year ago. The Knights earned another shot at an undefeated season by staging a massive rally to beat Memphis in the American Athletic Conference title game.

But just like last year, UCF was on the outside looking in when the College Football Playoff final four was announced, adding to the boulder-sized chip on its shoulder and only a self-awarded national title in its reach.

The Speedy Knights got the Fiesta Bowl off to a fast start, going up 14-3 on Greg McCrae's 25-yard TD run and Brandon Moore's 93-yard interception return.

The Tigers roared back behind Burrow and their disruptive defensive front.

Burrow shook off the big hit on



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

LSU wide receiver Justin Jefferson makes a touchdown catch in front of UCF defensive back Nevelle Clarke during the first half of the Fiesta Bowl on Tuesday in Glendale, Ariz.

the pick six, finding Jefferson on a pair of scoring passes and a 49-yard TD to Derrick Dillon.

UCF sputtered offensively after its opening drive, but Mack hit Gabriel Davis on a 32-yard pass in the closing seconds to pull UCF to within 24-21 at halftime.

Burrow opened the second half with a 32-yard TD pass to Ja'Marr Chase, and Cole Tracy hit three field goals to put LSU up 40-24. Tracy's final kick, the 97th of his career, broke the NCAA all-division record and ended the nation's fourth-longest winning streak since 2000.

"Love the way they competed

for four quarters, continued to fight with everything that they had. Believed. Played as a group," UCF first-year coach Josh Huesel said. "Just weren't good enough at the end."

The takeaway: Even depleted, LSU's defense proved to still be formidable and Burrow showed his grit after the big hit, giving LSU its first 10-win season since 2013.

UCF missed injured two-time AAC player of the year McKenzie Milton and had no answer for LSU's passing game to lose for the first time in two years.

So many penalties: The first

meeting between UCF and LSU was chippy from the start, including three first-half ejections. LSU consensus All-America safety Grant Delpit was among those ejected after being called for targeting in the second quarter.

UCF had a key penalty in the second quarter, when Randy Charlton was hit with an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty after the Knights stopped LSU on a third-and-6. That kept the Tigers' drive alive and Burrow hit Justice for a TD that pulled LSU to within 14-10.

LSU had 14 penalties for 145 yards, UCF had 12 for 104 yards.

Bowl roundup

Snell carries Kentucky past No. 13 Penn State

Associated Press



JOHN RAOUX/AP

Kentucky running back Benny Snell Jr. celebrates after scoring a touchdown on a 12-yard run against Penn State on Tuesday.

ORLANDO, Fla. — Winning 10 games, beating Penn State on New Year's Day, and finishing in the Top 20 is no small deal for the Kentucky Wildcats.

So when Mark Stoops took a seat on the podium flanked by linebacker Josh Allen and running back Benny Snell Jr. after Tuesday's 27-24 victory in the Citrus Bowl, the coach understandably was beyond excited.

"It was extremely important to this team, to all of us, to come home with some hardware, to come home with a trophy," Stoops said.

Snell ran for 144 yards and two touchdowns to become Kentucky's career rushing leader and helped the 16th-ranked Wildcats end their best season in more than four decades on a winning note.

"There's no question that these guys changed the culture," Stoops said. "They've done so much and meant so much to this team and this program that it was very important to finish, to collect the trophy, win 10 games and win a game on New Year's Day. Believe me, we had a great belief that we didn't have to do anything special (to win), just be us."

Snell scored on runs of 2 and 12 yards in the second half, then carried for a couple of crucial first downs to help Kentucky (10-3) run out the clock after Penn State's Trace McSorley trimmed a 27-7 deficit to three points despite playing with a foot injury.

McSorley threw for 246 yards and two touchdowns, and the Nittany Lions' career passing and wins leader also rushed for a team-high 75 yards and one TD.

"The same thing that troubled us throughout the season troubled us here again today. Dropped balls, missed opportunities. That's really kind of the story of the game," said Penn State coach James Franklin, whose team started slowly on offense, missed one field goal and had another blocked.

Lynn Bowden Jr. scored on a 58-yard punt return for Kentucky. Allen, the Southeastern Conference defensive player of the year, had three of the Wildcats' six sacks.

"The three guys we knew we needed to stop were Bowden, Snell and Allen. All three of them showed up today," Franklin said. "They've built their program around those guys, they built their season around those

guys," Franklin added. "They made plays. That's what great players do."

Outback Bowl

Iowa 27, No. 18 Mississippi State 22: At Tampa, Fla., safety Jake Gervase made an interception in the end zone to help preserve a late lead for the ball-hawking Hawkeyes.

Gervase also batted down an errant fourth-down pass to end the Bulldogs' final drive at the Iowa 32 with 25 seconds left. Two earlier Mississippi State threats in the fourth quarter led to only three points.

The Hawkeyes totaled just 199 yards, with 75 coming on a touchdown pass from Nathan Stanley to Nick Easley, but they converted three takeaways into 17 points.

Stanley threw for 214 yards and three scores. The Hawkeyes won despite netting minus-15 yards rushing, and their three running backs totaled 4 yards on 15 carries.

Iowa (9-4) earned its biggest postseason victory since an Orange Bowl win over Georgia Tech to cap the 2009 season. Mississippi State (8-5) lost to a team outside the top 15 for the first time.

SPORTS



Winter Classic
Bruins hold off Blackhawks
in outdoor game » **NHL, Page 26**

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



Texas quarterback Sam Ehlinger, center, scrambles Tuesday during the first half of the Sugar Bowl against Georgia in New Orleans.
RUSTY COSTANZA/AP



CURTIS COMPTON, ATLANTA JOURNAL CONSTITUTION/AP

Georgia defensive tackle Michael Barnett sits on the bench during the final minutes of his team's 28-21 loss to Texas.

Texas stuns Georgia

Ehlinger leads Horns to Sugar Bowl upset

By DAVID BRANDT
Associated Press

Bevvo's pregame strategy was to run right at the Bulldogs.
Once the football started, Texas quarterback Sam Ehlinger took the same approach with outstanding results.

Ehlinger ran for three touchdowns, the Texas defense largely held Georgia's offense in check, and the Longhorns earned their first 10-win season since 2009 by beating the Bulldogs 28-21 in the Sugar Bowl on Tuesday night.

"We're back!" Ehlinger shouted to a raucous con-

tingent of Texas fans after winning the game's Most Valuable Player award.

Ehlinger was the star of a gritty win, running for a 2-yard touchdown in the first quarter, a 9-yard score in the second, and a 1-yard TD in the fourth. The 6-foot-3, 230-pound sophomore finished with 64 yards rushing on 21 carries and also threw for 169 yards.

The quarterback's impressive performance came after a startling pregame display from Bevo, the team's huge longhorn steer mascot. About an hour before kickoff, he charged through a barricade and toward Georgia's red sweater-clad bulldog mascot Uga X.

A few people, including photographers, were
SEE UPSET ON PAGE 30

Fiesta Bowl: No. 11 LSU ends No. 7 UCF's winning streak at 25 games, Page 31

